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Matt Damon takes a weird and wild romp through fairy tale land, page 11

SPORTS:  
Women's soccer makes a pact with blue devils, page 13

SEPTEMBER 2, 2005 VOL.95, NO.28

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY SINCE 1911

<http://flathat.wm.edu>

# The Flat Hat



VARIETY:  
They came, they saw, they threw sausage, page 7

## College opens doors to students displaced by Hurricane Katrina

BY MICHAEL J. SCHOBEL  
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

President Gene Nichol announced yesterday that the College will open its doors to qualified Virginia residents studying in the Gulf states who were displaced by Hurricane Katrina. In the evening, Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler led a meeting to help student groups coordinate their relief efforts.

"As a college visited not too long ago by a like-minded storm," Nichol wrote in an e-mail to the student body, "we empathize with our fellows hit so hard by Katrina in Louisiana and Mississippi and Alabama. We want to do something — anything — to help."

Any individuals taken in by the College will be enrolled as visiting non-degree-seeking students. At the student meeting last night, Sadler said that there is no way to know

how many students will ultimately seek assistance from the College, but he predicts the College's offer will largely be answered by freshmen and some sophomores and juniors. There are over 30 colleges in the New Orleans metropolitan center alone, Sadler said. According to Nichol's e-mail, the College has already received over 30 calls from students seeking information.

Despite the College's housing occupancy rate of 101 percent,

Sadler said that the College has already identified 20 open spots, primarily in upperclassmen housing. Sadler said that if those spaces prove insufficient, the College may ask the Williamsburg community to open its doors to students.

The stranded students will be responsible for the College's tuition and fees, but ways of accommodating those who qualify for

**See HURRICANE + page 4**

## Old Campus dorms evacuated twice during past week

### Residents of Old Dominion sent to Sunken Gardens after grenade scare



CHRISTIAN AMONSON • THE FLAT HAT

Police and fire personnel rushed to Old Dominion Hall Tuesday night after a dummy grenade was found in a third-floor study lounge.

BY RACHEL COLLINS  
THE FLAT HAT

A dummy hand grenade was found in an Old Dominion Hall study lounge Tuesday night, according to Director of University Relations Bill Walker. The entire building was evacuated for approximately two hours while emergency personnel investigated the scene.

According to senior Shawn

Sullivan, a resident of the dorm, "a consistent and unpleasant tone" sounded at approximately 8:30 p.m. Sullivan added, however, that the noise was not especially loud and lasted for approximately one minute. Few if any residents left the building during this initial alarm. Shortly afterward the fire alarm sounded and residents quickly left the dorm. Residents

**See GRENADE + page 3**

### Sewage backup forces out Bryan Hall basement residents for hours

BY WILLIAM ANGLE  
THE FLAT HAT

This past Sunday, the basement of Bryan Hall flooded when drains on both ends of the hall backed up. Several students noticed puddles of water around floor drains at about 10 a.m. that morning, and the water levels continued to rise throughout the day.

The water level reached about

one inch before contractors arrived in the afternoon to repair the plumbing. After repairs were made, it took until 6 p.m. for the area to be successfully disinfected. The incident, which does not appear to be related to the renovations that took place in Bryan Hall over the summer, was caused by a blockage in the lateral sewer line

**See BRYAN + page 4**



KAYLA FELLER • THE FLAT HAT

Students watch in awe as basketball player senior Hawley Smith attempts to break the world record in pudding plunking this past Monday in the Sunken Gardens. The sausage-hurling competition was filmed for the MTV show "Call to Greatness," in which people try to break world records.

## College launches Gateway initiative

BY BEN LOCHER  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

A major new initiative announced by President Gene Nichol last Friday will enable low- and moderate-income applicants to attend the College without accumulating debt. Beginning next year, Gateway William & Mary will be available to all new freshman or transfer students whose family income is \$40,000 per year or less. For such students, the program would meet 100 percent of financial need with grants and work-study but would not burden them with loans that would need to be repaid.

"This program is designed to open the doors of opportunity for all segments of society," Nichol said. "It will assist students who could not otherwise afford attending William and Mary."

For a family of four, \$40,000 is approximately twice the federal poverty level. The Gateway program, however, does not take into account the size of a student's family.

The announcement of the Gateway program marks the first major initiative by Nichol since he assumed Timothy J. Sullivan's position as president of the College in July.

"I inherited this interest in improving public access [to the College] from President Sullivan," Nichol said. "This is not a sea change in policy. The mission of the program is and has always

been at the core of the mission of this university."

If the program were in place today, approximately 300 current students would be qualified, though the program will only apply to students entering next year. Current students who fall in the income bracket under \$40,000 will have 100 percent of their need met, though those packages may still include loans.

Through this program, Nichol hopes to double the number of low income students on campus by 2012. Should the program reaches that goal, it would cost the College roughly \$4 million per year.

"This is an ambitious program that is definitely not cheap," Nichol said. "[Gateway] will be funded by college, by private and hopefully by government funding. We will need to undertake substantial fundraising."

For those who are enrolled, Gateway will not guarantee a free ride, as the Aug. 27 edition of The Virginian-Pilot erroneously reported. The program will only match 100 percent of a student's financial need, as determined by the College formula based on student-submitted data from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as FAFSA. For the very lowest income students this will mean a full ride, but for others the aid will cover a

**See GATEWAY + page 4**

## Nichol discusses his plans as president



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT

Nichol hopes to reaffirm the College's commitment to affordable education with new fundraising projects after the Campaign for W&M.

BY CAITLIN WEBER  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The New Town building development on Monticello Road will soon put the finishing touches on the first businesses opening there. The area is described on its website, [www.newtownwilliamsburg.com](http://www.newtownwilliamsburg.com), as "a 365-acre mixed-use 'New Urbanism' community," and upon completion will include a variety of shops, restau-

rants and residential areas.

According to New Town Associates, LLC Director of Marketing Joe Stettinius, work on the complex began in 1997 and is scheduled to be completed by 2017. This October, a 12-screen movie theater will open along with several restaurants and office buildings.

Due to the long time frame of the project, many of the planned shops and offices have not yet been built; therefore company officials do not know exactly which

BY ERIN GRADY  
THE FLAT HAT

College President Gene Nichol addressed the challenges he is facing in his early presidency as well as his future vision for the College Wednesday. Nichol identified Gateway William & Mary, a new "free tuition" initiative, as a major concern and also discussed future fundraisers following Campaign for William & Mary and the recent controversy over the College's "Tribe" nickname.

According to Nichol, Gateway William & Mary is a program designed to allow low-income students to graduate from the College debt-free. Nichol has championed the initiative, which benefits students

whose parents make \$40,000 or less per year.

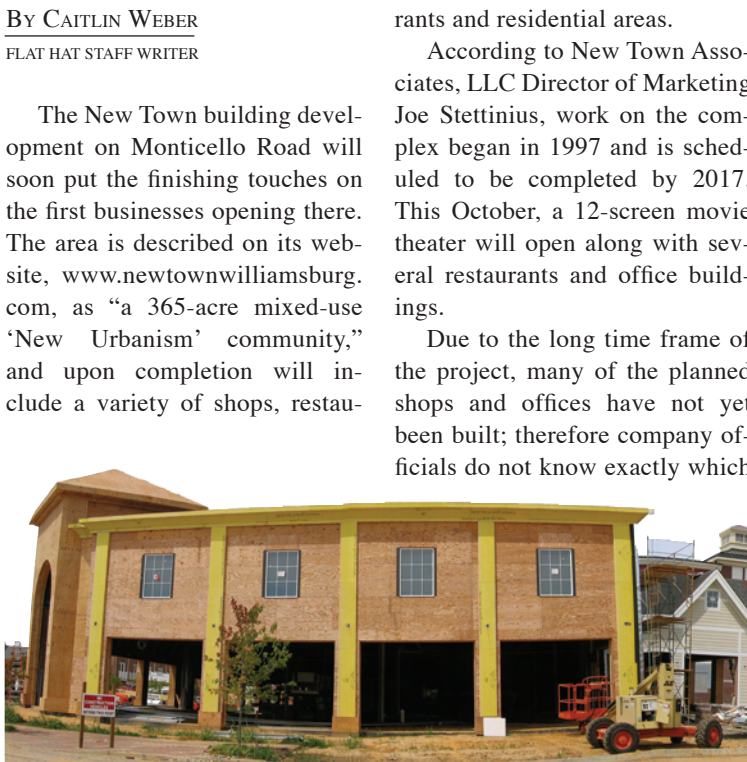
Nichol said that the program is essential to the College's mission.

"It is important for public universities to be visibly open as training grounds for tomorrow's leaders," he said. "I think that the entire community benefits from having a more diverse population, and that includes diversity as to economic resources and status."

The estimated cost of the program is \$4 million per year, beginning with the class of 2010. According to Nichol, this figure assumes that the enrollment of students from the low income level will be double the current level. The bulk of the funding is

**See NICHOL + page 3**

## New Town development project moves ahead



types of businesses will seek space in New Town, Stettinius said.

According to the Aug. 19 online edition of the Daily Press, several corporate offices and banks recently decided to become part of New Town, which the press called a future "major financial hub of James City County." The report also lists two dermatology practices, a dentist's office, The Corner Pocket restaurant and a Quizno's as some of the businesses that have already signed on.

"Williamsburg does not really have a downtown because Mer-

chant's Square is largely geared towards tourism," Stettinius said. "New Town should function as a downtown for the Williamsburg community." He added that there is a large economic gap between the upper and lower classes in Williamsburg and that New Town's planned residential area and affordable shopping "should fill out the dip in the graph."

One part of catering to other demographics in Williamsburg is providing services for students at the College.

"Hopefully it will be a good place to give students more options

**See PROJECT + page 4**

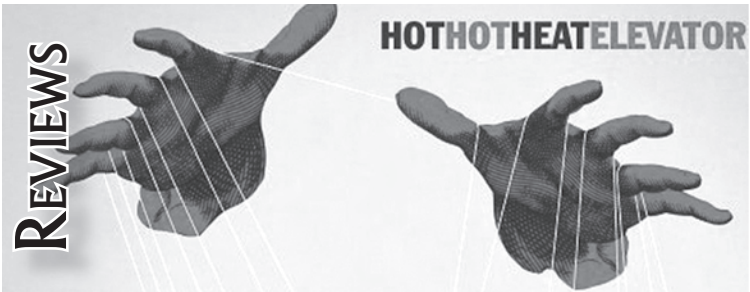


Inside this week’s issue



The Muscarelle’s new exhibit on the works of Charles Burchfield abounds in color, texture and form.

See EXHIBIT, page 7.



Three freshmen sound off on three new albums. From hip-hop to emo, find out what made the grade and what didn’t.

See INDIE, page 11.



No, there’s nothing wrong with the phones. Unless you want college students taking your pizza orders, follow a senior’s simple dialing instructions.

See CHANELLO’s, page 5.



Running can be fun ... and crazy. Read two views on this popular athletic pastime.

See TEAM BLITZ, page 14.



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See <http://flatthat.wm.edu/>

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# The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters should be no more than 300 words, columns should be no more than 700 words. Letters must be e-mailed to [flhops@wm.edu](mailto:flhops@wm.edu).

The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions.

The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets weekly to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by the Editor or a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Beyond the ‘Burg

♦ ASTRODOME TO HOUSE  
23,000 KATRINA VICTIMS

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas — Gov. Rick Perry has opened Houston’s Reliant Astrodome to house the 23,000 victims of Hurricane Katrina currently staying in the New Orleans Superdome. Harris County officials agreed to turn the Astrodome into a long-term shelter Wednesday.

“We are all in this together,” Perry said. ... “We will continue to do what it takes, from offering assistance to offering prayers, to get through this together as one American family.”

The Superdome is being evacuated due to storm damage and flooding in New Orleans. The first of almost 500 buses left New Orleans Wednesday afternoon. Officials said the Astrodome’s schedule had already been cleared through December, enabling it to be used as a long-term shelter.

Perry addressed the growing need for shelters, adding that his office would continue pursuing locations and arrangements to aid storm victims.

The city of Austin also has been busy organizing relief for hurricane refugees. The American Red Cross opened a shelter in Austin for evacuees seeking a place to stay indefinitely. The Tony Burger Center, a special events and athletic facility on U.S. Highway 290 has been converted into a long-term shelter. Red Cross officials said most of the evacuees sought help after personal funds ran too low to keep them in a hotel for an extended period of time.

Red Cross and Harris County officials could not be reached for personal comment because of the emergency evacuation, according to messages left by the agencies.

Texas is also planning to send gasoline to Florida. The state requested a two-week supply due to a pipeline disruption caused by Katrina. Perry said the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will “exercise enforcement discretion” to allow fuel from Port Arthur to be transported to Florida.

Perry added that the crisis will be particularly hard on children who have had to leave schools and daily routines. Under federal law, these children are entitled to enroll in the school district where they will temporarily reside. ...

— By Kimberly Garza, Daily Texan (U. Texas)  
— compiled by austin wright

WEEKEND  
WEATHER

Friday



High 93°  
Low 68°

Saturday



High 90°  
Low 65°

Sunday



High 86°  
Low 65°

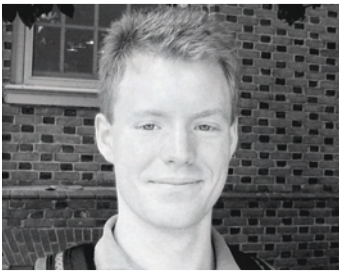
Source: [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)



POLICE  
BEAT

STREET BEAT :

How did you spend your first weekend of the school year?



I don’t remember.

♦ Paul Smith, senior



I went to Screen on the Green and to choir dinner.

♦ Jenny Gummesson, freshman



Unfortunately, I had to work. But I still had a party at my house on Saturday. That was fun.

♦ Ryan McEntee, senior



I slept in, went to Target, saw Screen on the Green and did the little homework I had.

♦ Kaity Smoot, freshman

— photos and interviews by lizzy spencer



# Senate, Undergraduate Council hold first sessions of new school year



LAUREN BRYANT • THE FLAT HAT  
*Class of 2008 President Nick Faulkner, Class of 2007 President Jess Vance and Class of 2006 Vice President for Advocacy Stephanie Casler discussed the Student Assembly book sale, recycling and homecoming at Tuesday's Undergraduate Council meeting in Blow Hall.*

## Undergraduate Council report says SA book sale raised \$20,000

BY ANNE FLATIN  
THE FLAT HAT

The Undergraduate Council met Tuesday in the Board of Visitors room in Blow Memorial Hall to present updates by the classes of 2006, 2007 and 2008.

The Class of 2008, which oversaw the Student Assembly's recent used books sale, reported the sale of 2,000 used books and raised \$20,000 for students. The class plans on hosting a book return sale next week.

Additionally, the Class of 2008 is in the process of arranging a trip to the Virginia Military Institute for the football game Sept. 10. Buses are scheduled to leave the College at 7:30 a.m. and return at 7:30 p.m. A \$10 fee will cover both bus fare and tickets.

The Class of 2008 has also arranged a day trip to Go-Karts Plus Sept. 17 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. They will sell wristbands to the first 500 students for a discounted rate of \$5. Williamsburg Area Transport will provide transportation to the event.

The representatives from the Class of 2007 discussed the planning of the Pat McGee Concert to be held Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the Lake Matoaka Amphitheatre. The Class of 2007 and the University Center Activities Board hope to sell 2,000 tickets for the concert at the UCAB Box Office and at tables in the University Center. Tickets will also be available at the amphitheatre the day of the event starting at 4 p.m. In the event

of rain, the concert will be held in Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall, and tickets sales will be limited to 770.

The Class of 2007 also discussed their plan to extend recycling to the Ludwell Apartments at some point this year. At present, they are also considering planting trees near Barksdale Field.

In addition, representatives from the Class of 2007 discussed their plan to erect memorials to the two members of their class who took their lives last year.

The representatives from the Class of 2006 completed the reports by briefing the Council on two of their projects, the Green and Gold and the Senior Class Gift. The Senior Class Gift Kickoff will begin this month.

After the class reports, Student Assembly Vice President junior Amanda Norris urged the Council to encourage recycling around the College.

"If we can prove to President Nichol that people are recycling, the school will pay for it," Norris said.

She said that if students don't use the new recycling dumpsters, the College will cease to support the program.

Junior Sen. Greg Teich asked the Undergraduate Council to support his bill in the SA for senators to keep office hours so that the SA office is always staffed by a senator. [See Senate, this page.]

The Undergraduate Council divided into committees at the end of

## Bill to create new at-large senate seat aimed at transfer students defeated

BY MEERA FICKLING  
THE FLAT HAT

The Student Assembly Senate debated a bill to create a new at-large senate position and considered the applications of four students for SA positions at Tuesday's meeting.

Transfer student junior Colin Reynolds spoke to the senate in favor of the Amendment to End Disenfranchisement of Students at the College, which would establish the at-large senate position. Reynolds pointed out that almost 200 transfer students arriving at the College each fall could not be represented through the election process until the next spring and proposed that a 17th senator be elected at the same time as the freshmen, giving transfer students an immediate opportunity to be represented in student government.

"[Transfer students] are passionate about William and Mary the same way immigrants to the United States are very patriotic," Senate Chair senior Luther Lowe added, who is the sponsor of the bill and a transfer student.

The bill was heavily debated due to its time-sensitive nature. Lowe said that the amendment needed to be passed immediately to allow candidates time to run for the position this fall, while other senators, including sophomore Brett Phillips, argued that passing

the bill early enough for students to run was not feasible and would preclude discussion that he felt should take place before a vote.

"Would your senate [at James Madison University] pass this bill in 45 minutes?" Phillips asked Reynolds.

"Actually, our senate was pretty incredible," Reynolds responded. "We made things happen."

The bill eventually failed 4-4-7.

The senate confirmed President of the Class of 2007 junior Jess Vance and junior Sen. Greg Teich as chairs of the First-Year Council, which helps freshmen who have not been elected for positions become involved in the SA. Reviving a long-standing debate about a lack of diversity within the SA, junior Sen. Sean Barker asked Teich what he would do to draw more minorities to the council.

"I'm not about to elect people who are going to maintain the status quo," Teich said.

Teich responded that recruitment was outside the council's mission, although he added, "if you want me to break the mold in recruitment, it's not a big deal — it can be done."

Teich also promised to energize the council, making it more enjoyable for students and involving the freshmen sooner in the actual workings of the SA.

**See SENATE + page 4**

## NICHOL

FROM PAGE 1

expected to come from private donations, as well as state and federal aid.

Only in-state students can benefit from the Gateway program, though Nichol said that the program is part of a "broader effort for increased financial aid across the board for all students," including out-of-state students or those who fall above the income level specified to qualify for the program.

"We want the doors to be open to all those who have the skill and the determination and the will," Nichol said. "We never want those doors to be closed or to appear closed because you might not have the economic resources."

Nichol also addressed the Campaign for William & Mary, the most ambitious fund-raising campaign the College has ever undertaken. To date, the Campaign has raised over \$400 million toward its \$500 million goal. A substantial amount of the money has been pledged to undergraduate support, as well as faculty support and building projects and expansion. The money is being raised from private donations.

Nichol anticipates beginning other campaigns in the future, but he added that this campaign must be completed before speculation about future fund-raising can begin. He said that the College's list of needs is long and that there will be no lack of places for the money to be spent.

"Fortunately, there is a whole community of alumni who love William and Mary and want to give back to the campus community," Nichol said.

In addition to the monetary concerns of his presidency, Nichol recently had to contend with the NCAA, which asked the College, in addition to other universities across the United States, to evaluate the use of possibly offensive nicknames for their athletic programs. The "Tribe" has been identified by the NCAA as offensive to Native American populations.

Nichol said that he has been speaking with students, faculty and members of the community to address the issue of the College's nickname. Overwhelmingly, Nichol said, there is a great deal of support for the use of the "Tribe" as the College's nickname.

"[The nickname is meant] in an inclusive and pride-generating way," Nichol said. "People in the community use the term as a badge of honor and to show their commitment to one another and to the College."

The College will cooperate with the NCAA and file a report regarding the nickname sometime in November. Nichol said he expects the NCAA to seriously consider the report before making any judgments regarding the "Tribe" nickname.

Aside from dealing with important issues concerning the College's future, Nichol said he hopes to connect with the student body and keep in touch with its changing opinions. Nichol said he intends to use student media to stay in touch with the student body, as well as to immerse himself in activities on campus.

"I'm going to be the guy in the Caf and the UC who asks to sit and have a cup of coffee with the students. I'm going to be meeting with student organizations and student leaders," Nichol said. "People will be seeing a lot of me, and I look forward to that."

## GRENADE

FROM PAGE 1

initially gathered close to the dorm as the alarm continued to sound, but authorities soon ordered all residents to move to the Sunken Gardens. The residents waited while personnel surveyed the building for hazards. Residents were not allowed to return to the building until 10:30 p.m. Later that night, the residents were called outside at 1 a.m. for a fire drill.

A dummy hand grenade resembles an actual hand grenade; however, it does not have a fuse or powder and therefore cannot detonate. Despite the fact that the grenade was not dangerous, precautions were taken that caused inconvenience among dorm residents and College officials.

Beyond inconveniencing residents, the incident was an expensive false alarm for the Williamsburg Fire Department, causing College officials to express concern that the incident reflected poorly on the College's image in the community. Walker reiterated Sadler's message that this was a "very unwise" device to bring on campus and asked that members of the community use better judgment in the future. The incident is still under investigation and the College will not release any details on who might be responsible.

Some residents expressed disappointment with the College's communication following the incident. According to senior Katie Wallmeyer, a resident of the dorm, she was not informed of the reason for the alarm until the rest of the campus was notified late Wednesday morning. Wallmeyer and her roommate were concerned that the incident was much more serious.

# Virginia21 tells General Assembly to pay college debt

BY JENNA ECKARDT  
THE FLAT HAT

The lobbying group Virginia21 is calling on the General Assembly to settle a debt of \$387 million owed to Virginia college students and families. The campaign, begun Aug. 28, is just one part of a three-year effort to secure complete funding for higher education in Virginia. The bill takes into account under-funding as well as financial aid and provisions for new students.

Virginia21 describes itself as a non-partisan lobbying group made up of 18- to 24-year olds concerned with issues involving education, the economy and responsible government. At the moment, their efforts are focused on keeping higher education affordable, an issue receiving increasing attention as the cost of tuition in Virginia has risen on average 9 percent in the past year alone. The student steering committee of Virginia21 is led by the student body presidents of all of Virginia's public colleges.

According to the State Council on Higher Education, the GA does not meet its own standard for funding higher education by more than \$387 million.

"It's time for the General Assembly to pay their debt to Virginia's families," Sumeet Bagai, student body president of Virginia Tech and chairman of the student steering committee said. "The longer this debt goes unpaid, the higher tuition will rise. Virginia can not afford to let this debt increase any longer."

At an Aug. 28 meeting, the lobbying group approved a bill, copies of which young voters have begun to send to their GA representatives. The bill is comprised of three parts: first, the GA owes \$300 million because of previous funding cuts. Second, \$23 million is necessary to fund the commonwealth's commitment of meeting half of all students' need. Third, Virginia colleges need \$63 million to provide for an increase of 15,000 new students who will enter the system by 2008.

Although the next session of the GA will not begin until January, members have already started to work on the budget. This particular campaign was timed to coincide with elections and is aimed at raising awareness and activism among young voters.

"As General Assembly members campaign for re-election this fall, we want to make sure they know that thousands of Virginia families care about funding for higher education to keep tuition low," David Solimini, '04, communications director for Virginia21, said. "The best way a student can send this message is to make sure they vote in November."

Virginia21 was officially founded by students from the College in May 2003, but has origins in an earlier group begun in 2002. It considers itself the nation's first generational advocate for the interests of young people. At the moment, more than 22,000 young people across Virginia are members, 1,400 of whom attend the College.

In the past, Virginia21 has been involved in ensuring a fairer textbook market and most recently graded General Assembly members on the quality of their support for issues concerning young people.

# New investigative publication debuts

BY AUSTIN WRIGHT  
THE FLAT HAT

The Virginia Informer released its first issue Aug. 23. Pictures of the fire damage from the inside of Preston Hall and an exclusive interview with AOL Instant Messenger screen name TribeTonight were featured in the first edition. The Informer's editors say they plan to be more investigative than other campus newspapers.

Released monthly, The Informer will compete with other campus publications covering breaking news. So that articles can be posted as events occur, The Informer will update its website more frequently.

Assistant Editor-in-Chief sophomore Joe Luppino-Esposito said he takes pride in the fact that The Informer receives no funding from the College. According to The Informer's business manager sophomore Sharriff Tanious, a large portion of the Student Assembly budget goes to student publications. Luppino-Esposito said he believes that without school funding, The Informer has more freedom to print controversial articles.

"We understand we will probably be the underdog for a long time," Luppino-Esposito said. "It's hard to compete with funded, established papers."

The Informer supports itself through donations and advertisements. The Class of 2008, WCWM Radio, The Accidentals, Students for Life, Residence Life and Baskin-Robbins are current advertisers.

The first issue included news, features and opinion sections; future issues will also contain a variety section. The Informer prints in New Jersey using the School Publishing Corporation, an online publishing company that prints overnight.

Editor-in-Chief Amanda Yasenchak and Luppino-Esposito came together last year when Luppino-Es-

posito suggested the idea for a college newspaper that expands beyond just one campus. He got the idea from the college magazine The Business Times, a Princeton University publication that includes articles by students across the country.

This year the staff said they are seeking name recognition for The Informer among students of the College, but in the years to come they said they hope it will be known throughout Virginia. Eventually, The Informer may contain articles from students at other campuses, although it will continue to focus on local issues.

It is rumored that The Informer has a conservative slant. Yasenchak, Luppino-Esposito and Tanious, all members of the College Republicans, dispute the rumor, arguing that there may be conservative articles on the opinions page because opinions are from the writer's perspective, but overall the paper achieves balance.

"We are focusing on issues that aren't heard whether they're conservative, liberal or anything else," Yasenchak said.

In a feature article about rock band 3 Doors Down's Aug. 31 concert in Roanoke, Yasenchak began by criticizing other rock bands for using their authority to "lecture the world on foreign and domestic policy." Yasenchak said that 3 Doors Down is a "breath of fresh air" because it does not use its "captive audience as a test group for liberal or anti-American theories."

Yasenchak said that The Informer plans to cover the Student Assembly more closely than other campus papers do.

"The Student Assembly has half a million dollars of our money and a lot of the stuff they do goes unreported," Yasenchak said.

Luppino-Esposito and Tanious are senators for the class of 2008.

The second issue will be released in late September or early October.



# Under the MICROSCOPE

## ◆ RESEARCHERS DISCOVER LINK BETWEEN BACTERIA AND OBESITY

By BECKY EASLEY  
FLAT HAT SCIENCE COLUMNIST

The fear of obesity is becoming an obsession in the United States. The search for new weight loss remedies cuts across demographics and even young adults with high metabolisms are told to watch what they eat. Fear of the “freshman 15” drives many college students to take up running and to cut down on calories that they used to burn off during varsity sports in high school. New research from professors at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis suggests that weight gain might have a source other than genetics, diet or lifestyle.

According to Dr. Jeffrey Gordon, the professor leading the research along with Dr. Fredric Backhed, bacteria that live in the human gut may be to blame for weight gain in some humans. Gordon’s research website demonstrates how bacteria in the human body, which outnumber human body cells by a factor of 10, can have an impact on the digestive system. Furthermore, the number of genes that a microbe has is approximately 100 times that of a human’s.

Gordon and Backhed’s research group at the Washington University School of Medicine used mice to study the role that bacteria play in obesity. The study involved two groups of mice, one that lived in normal conditions and was exposed to bacteria, and another that was kept in completely sterile conditions for many generations so as not have the bacterium, *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron*, in its gut. *Bacteroides* is an intestinal microbe common in human and mice. The results indicated that the mice without bacteria had 42 percent less fat despite the fact that they were fed one-third more calories than the mice in normal conditions. The current online edition of *Discover Magazine* reported that Gordon and Backhed’s work and also showed that when the bacteria-free mice were exposed to *Bacteroides*, their body weight increased by 57 percent.

In 1997, Gordon worked with graduate student Lynn Bry who also demonstrated that *Bacteroides* affects weight gain in mice. Bry studied only the bacteria, as opposed to enzymes and hormones that are involved in digestion. *Bacteroides* uses a nutrient called fucose; when *Bacteroides* is present, Bry found that the amount of fucose increases, which can eventually result in weight gain. Furthermore, Bry

found that the bacteria-free mice produced the sugar initially, but after a while the sugar was no longer detectable in the mice. When Bry mutated the bacteria so that it could not eat fucose and then introduced it to the sterile mice, she found that fucose was not produced.

Gordon and his fellow researchers have found that *Bacteroides* affects an enzyme that controls fat storage. This enzyme is called fasting-induced adipocyte factor, or FIAF, and it is produced in the gut lining, liver and fat-cells, according to the Nov. 2004 issue of *Science Now*. This enzyme lowers fat in the body. *Bacteroides* seems to interfere with FIAF a production, inhibiting the body’s ability to burn off fat.

This research holds promise for designing medications to help combat obesity. According to *Discover Magazine*, Gordon plans on researching drug options involving FIAF rather than the bacteria. Gordon said he chose to work with the enzyme rather than the bacteria because it would not be safe to try to eliminate bacteria from the digestive system. According to a Howard Hughes Medical Institution’s website, bacteria plays an important role in the digestive system. Bacteria in the gut can digest certain foods, such as plant starches, that humans cannot naturally process. Bacteria also help protect the body from cancer by ridding it of carcinogens and by renewing cells in the lining of the gut to prevent cancer.



COURTESY PHOTO ♦ DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY  
*An electron microscope reveals an intestinal bacterium that may be linked to obesity.*

## GATEWAY

FROM PAGE 1

significant chunk of tuition, fees and room and board.

The College will be partnering with the University of Virginia, which operates a similar program called AccessUVa.

“We will be joining hands with UVa,” Nichol said. “They will help us hone our efforts and work on fundraising.”

In addition to the main component, the Gateway program will include two other pieces. First, financial aid will increase across the board. Second, an outreach program will be designed to get information out to high schools.

“We will be running an aggressive outreach campaign,” Nichol said. “We will be turning to alumni, to the student body and the K-12 leaders to get the message out.”

## HURRICANE

FROM PAGE 1

financial aid is being discussed as well.

“We are going to provide the maximum financial flexibility to these students and their parents,” Nichol said, according to University Relations.

“While the visiting students will be responsible for tuition, we are hoping to work with the commonwealth to develop a system-wide approach to provide funding for storm victims.”

Sadler was joined by local representatives of the American Red Cross Alyssa Holt and Jim Goltry. The College has a long history with the Red Cross, having established the first college partnership with the organization in the United States in 1954. Goltry said that the most important thing students could do to help the tens of thousands in Red Cross shelters is to raise funds.

“Money is the quickest way that we can get assistance,” he said. Along with providing immediate relief, “it helps them get their economy back booming.”

At the end of last night’s meeting, second-year law student Elizabeth McElroy, who lives in the New Orleans area and said her apartment was destroyed, thanked the students for all of their support.

“I think these efforts are really touching,” she said.  
*Ashley Kang also contributed to this story.*

*Investigate for The Flat Hat.*

*News writers meetings are Sundays  
at 5:30 p.m. in the Campus Center  
basement*

# World Beat: Uganda Rebels battle for control

By ALEX ELY  
THE FLAT HAT

Rebel forces in northern Uganda killed seven civilians in a roadside ambush the night of Aug. 25, intensifying violence in the war-ravaged region. The Associated Press reported Aug. 25 that, according to Morris Ogenga Latigo, a parliament member representing the region around Kalongo where the attacks took place, three children and four men were killed. The Ugandan army responded shortly after the attacks by killing three rebels, all of whom were members of the Lord’s Resistance

Ugandan Ministry of Health provided details on the effects of the resistance in the northern Acholi region of Uganda.

“[A] total excess mortality of 28,283 of which 11,068 [are] children under five, can be projected for the entire Acholi region between January and July 2005, namely about 1,000 excess deaths per week,” the report stated.

In addition to violence connected with the insurgency, a leading cause of death is disease, particularly malaria and AIDS.

Museveni became president in 1986, restoring order to a country

the LRA continued its rebellion in the north and west. While the rebels control no land of their own, guerrilla attacks, primarily against civilians, have made it nearly impossible to crush the rebellion, particularly when rebel forces move and operate in small groups, The Post reported.

The LRA also operates in areas of southern Sudan, and negotiations between the rebels and both countries’ administrations have done little to stop the bloodshed.

According to an Aug. 26 report from the Kenya Broadcasting Company, Sudan’s new southern leader Salva Kiir Mayardit issued an

### SITUATION:

*For many years, Uganda has been a country plagued with strife due to conflicts between the government and more conservative rebel factions. Recently, a string of attacks on civilians, as well as disease and death in many regions of Uganda, has challenged Uganda’s pro-Western government to act. Yoweri Museveni, the president of Uganda, came in to power in 1986 and has led a series of reforms including a decentralization of the media. During Museveni’s time in office, the Ugandan economy has expanded and inflation has remained low. The Lord’s Resistance Army, the rebel faction fighting the government, intends to replace Uganda’s constitution with the Ten Commandments.*

Army, an organization dedicated to the removal of current Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni. The LRA is also committed to the replacement of the country’s constitution with the Bible’s Ten Commandments, the Aug. 27 edition of Washingtonpost.com reported.

The effects of the ongoing rebellion in the northern and western regions are felt by all inhabitants, particularly children. According to the United Nation’s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 1,000 displaced civilians die every week, mostly from violence and disease. National Public Radio reported April 24 that “in the long rebel war in Uganda, 20,000 children have been abducted. Boys are forced to join the resistance army; girls become sex slaves to the older soldiers.”

An August report by the

that, according to the July 12 online edition of BBC News, had become infamous for human rights violations under the military dictatorships of Idi Amin and Milton Obote throughout the 1970s and early 80s. The BBC reports in its country profile of Uganda that in the time before Museveni, as many as half a million people were killed in state-sponsored violence.

Museveni has become very popular with most Western leaders due to his democratic reforms and economic policies, which have led to consistent annual growth in Uganda and a decrease in inflation rates, the BBC News reported.

Additionally, Museveni began to loosen his regime’s control of the media in 1993, which led to a rapid increase in the number and variety of available media sources for Uganda’s citizens. However,

ultimatum to the LRA that they must reach a peace agreement with the Sudanese government or leave their bases in southern Sudan.

According to the Kenya Broadcasting Company, “[the] Sudanese first vice president said that actions would be taken against LRA if it does not heed the warning.” The LRA’s leaders have not announced their demands, nor have they been accessible for negotiations.

AllAfrica.com reported Aug. 22 that as a result of combined efforts by Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway and the United States, radio messages were broadcast throughout the region urging rebel forces to resume peace negotiations. Mediators said they are disappointed by the lack of response from the LRA, and it remains to be seen when and if a peaceful resolution will be reached.

## PROJECT

FROM PAGE 1

with their social lives,” Stettinius said. He mentioned that their company researched the shopping and entertainment needs of college students and will consider this along with the needs of Williamsburg residents when selecting businesses. To help make the complex accessible to students, he added, they will add a bus stop on the regular Williamsburg Area Transport route.

“The New Town concept [is] a venue that can provide more off-campus activities for students, faculty and staff,” Vice President for Finance Sam Jones said.

Along with the increased selection of places to shop, eat and relax, the New Town development may provide other benefits to students at the College.

“As new companies come to the area, their location in New Town might also provide expanded research and job opportunities for students and graduates,” Jones added.

The New Town website advertises the benefits of its close proximity to the College by describing the 64-acre Discovery Business Park as “perfect for linking new and existing businesses with the students, faculty and research and development power of the College of William and Mary.”

Stettinius also said he thinks that the project will create new business. “The businesses in New Town will be able to provide a large number of job and internship opportunities to both students and graduates,” he said.

Funding for the project comes from the C.C. Casey Limited Company and the College’s Endowment Association, with each investing 50 percent in New Town. The Endowment Association is a private foundation supporting the College and, according to Jones, has the development as just one of its many investments.

“The Endowment Association’s investment is not purely for financial reasons,” Stettinius said. “Their primary interest is in creating a development where businesses will fit synergistically with the faculty, graduates and students of William and Mary.”

## SENATE

FROM PAGE 3

SA President junior Ryan Scofield strongly endorsed both candidates, calling Vance “a very energetic person” and Teich “the best person for the job.”

Before unanimously confirming sophomore Adam Boltik to the elections commission, the senate questioned him about his views on negative campaigning and his opinion of a controversial campaign advertisement approved last year that played on the “f-word.” Boltik responded that attacks on other candidates were against the rules, but added that pointing out issues with the current administration should not be a problem.

Second-year law student Victoria Sarfo-Kantanka was confirmed unanimously for a position on the review board, the supreme

court of the SA, which resolves disputes over the constitutionality of assembly actions and decides election disputes. Senate members said that her status as a law student makes her especially qualified for the position. Junior James Ambrose was also confirmed unanimously as a liaison between the SA Department of Public Affairs and the College’s Board of Visitors. He will work with senior Allison Biggs to keep the Board informed of major student activities.

“I’m really happy that they all went through and that, finally, all the positions were filled with overwhelming support,” Scofield said after the confirmation process.

The senate also passed a number of administrative bills restructuring the committee system, clarifying the voting process and mandating at least one office hour per week.



ALLIE VEINOTE ♦ THE FLAT HAT  
*Residents of Bryan basement were told to put towels in front of their doors to prevent sewage water from leaking into their rooms.*

## BRYAN

FROM PAGE 1

that connects Bryan Hall to the Williamsburg sewer system.

Sophomores Lesley Boswell and Leah Schrier were among the first residents to notice the problem. They observed a small puddle on the bathroom floor. Since the Bryan basement RA was away for the weekend, they got in touch with the third floor RA, senior Brian Indovina, who helped them contact the necessary personnel. The Campus Police and the Williamsburg Fire Department responded.

According to sophomores Jessica Burrige and Jessica Snead, they were woken up by the offensive smell. The two roommates shoved towels and clothing under their bedroom door to stop the water from getting in, which prevented their belongings from becoming wet.

According to sophomore Arielle Everett and junior Gianne Harper, who live on the other side of the hall, water got into their room despite their best efforts and damaged car-

pets and a textbook.

“I mopped up a big bucket of water from our room [after it started flooding],” Harper said.

Because it was a non-business day, fewer College staff were on duty. Before plumbers could inspect the sewer, The Campus Police had to summon a tow truck and have a car that was parked over the manhole that accesses Bryan Hall’s lateral sewer line moved.

“This sort of stuff happens sometimes,” Dave Shepard of facilities management said. “We don’t look forward to it happening. We’re going to do our best to respond as fast as we can, limit the damage and take care of the problem.”

The renovations that took place in Bryan Hall over the summer did not modify any of the drain lines. Gilbert Stewart of facilities management, who oversaw the renovation efforts, explained that, although the sinks were changed, the original plumbing could not be changed because it is encased in solid concrete. Bryan Hall dates back to 1953.

Residence Life had clothing and carpets that were damaged by the incident cleaned.



STAFF EDITORIAL

Do more with less waste

During the past week President Gene Nichol announced two new initiatives to help out students in financial distress. The first, in response to the continuing problem of poverty in the commonwealth, is known as “Gateway William & Mary” and will provide debt-free education for new Virginia undergraduates whose combined family income is less than \$40,000 per annum. The second, an impromptu initiative to assist native Virginia students affected by hurricane Katrina at their Gulf coast schools, will permit those students to transfer temporarily to the College so that their education can continue uninterrupted.

While the editors of this newspaper certainly support President Nichol in his endeavors, we feel compelled to remind him and the rest of the administration that the College faces many financial difficulties that also need attention. We have no doubt that the president has many items on his agenda, but from our vantage point, there has been and continues to be a serious mis-allocation of resources that is paralyzing efforts to make the College a better school.

Foremost, we are concerned that resources, already stretched thin due to funding shortages, are being ear-marked for unnecessary construction and infrastructure upgrades. Despite the recent announcement of a faculty salary increase, more funds can and must be allocated to the following areas: campus safety upgrades (think Preston Hall fire), research opportunities, recycling and other eco-friendly programs, faculty compensation and financial assistance.

As we reported two weeks ago, however, the College is continuing a massive set of construction projects, including a new, \$11.5 million remodeled Caf, an unnecessary and costly update to the Rec Center, a travesty of a building on the field formerly known as Barksdale and, among other silly things, bigger monitors in some of the computer labs. Thank God for that; students might have gone blind if they still had to look at 17-inch flat screens.

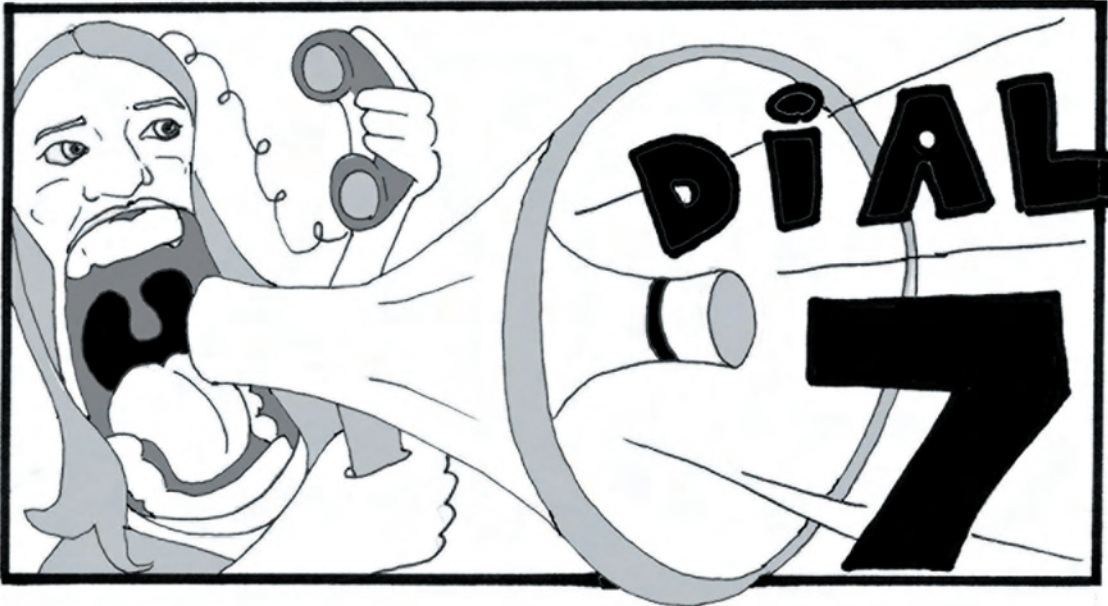
Any number of examples of inefficient spending can be found all over campus, none of which ever seem to diminish, even when the College faces significant budget shortfalls. Waste, it seems, operates independently of our financial standing. Whatever its cause, the College would be far better prepared to tackle truly vital programs if it weren’t constantly concerned with how many millions of dollars to spend in boondoggles like upgrading our amphitheatre. Somehow, we think it’s likely that we could be a top-tier academic institution without a state-of-the-art lake-side amphitheatre.

No doubt individuals who face perilous circumstances, financial or otherwise, through no fault of their own deserve our assistance. It is right that one extend a hand to a neighbor when he is in distress. The two initiatives currently spearheaded by our president are honorable attempts at such appropriate generosity, but how much more could we do if we cut back on unnecessary luxuries? How many more destitute students could we assist if we admitted that our computer screens are big enough?

The College constantly tells us that we have far less financial resources than comparatively-ranked schools. The College tells us that its goal is to help out those less fortunate and to raise our faculty salaries to levels competitive with similar institutions. When we see projects such as installing high-speed wireless internet access everywhere, however, we are forced to think that the College isn’t exactly doing its best to put money in the places where it can do the most good.

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I am not your Chanello’s

You may not know me, but there’s a good chance we’ve spoken on the phone this past week. Maybe you were having trouble registering for classes. Or you might have needed some help with your computer. Or maybe you just got hungry and felt like a pizza. How could I possibly help you with all of these different things (you may well ask)?

I can’t.

My first week back at school has been pretty normal — I unpacked, decorated my room, caught up with old friends and thought about how strange it feels to finally be a senior. I plugged in a new phone, and recorded a nice, new voicemail greeting. I was a little worried about remembering another new phone number. It’s my fourth campus number, not to mention various cell phone numbers and all the codes and passwords. But after the past few days, I don’t think I’ll ever forget it.

The “wrong number” calls started coming soon after we plugged in the phone. My roommates and I thought it was a little funny but nothing to be too worried about. Poor freshmen, we thought, they’re so overwhelmed that they can’t even remember their friends’ numbers. But after a few hours, we were less sympathetic. The same person would call again and again, seeming to have no memory of the four-digit combination they just tried. I couldn’t imagine what they were thinking; I snapped at one poor boy “OK, write down the number you just called. OK? Then you

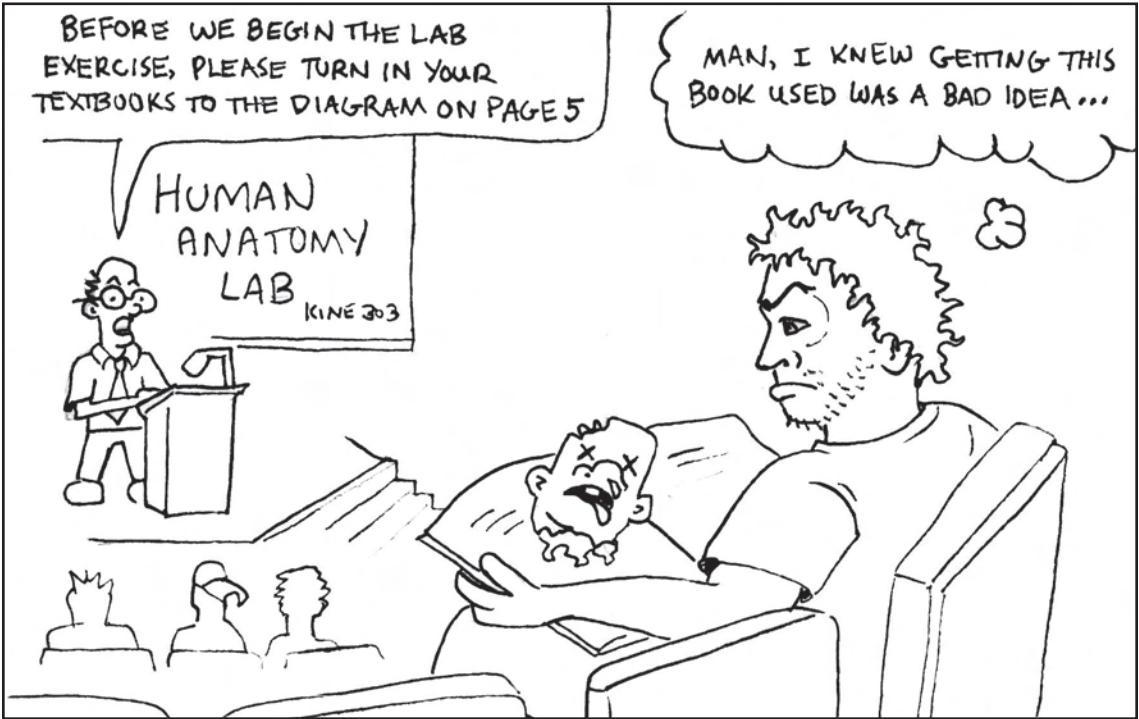
won’t call it again.”

Within a day, my roommate Mary realized what was happening. Our extension is very similar to the first couple digits of countless Williamsburg-area phone numbers, including Chanello’s, if you think you have to dial “1” first. Yes. If you think you dial “1” before calling a number-that-is-in-the-same-area-code-you-are-in-at-that-moment (as one would hope a pizza delivery place would be), then you’ll probably reach me instead of Chanello’s. If this sounds confusing, dear freshmen, just keep reading.

You see, you don’t have to dial 1 when you’re already in the right area code. You don’t even have to dial the area code when you’re in this area code (I know all of us from Northern Virginia have some trouble with that one). What you do have to do, as I’ve learned to explain nearly every time I answer my phone, is to dial 7 to reach an off-campus, local number.

In the days that have followed Mary’s realization, through the many, many wrong numbers, we’ve considered giving up. Explaining proper dialing procedure again and again can get tiring. We’ve considered saying, “Sure, pepperoni? Would you like extra cheese on that?” But we haven’t because we’re not quite ready to give up on you guys yet. You’re very bright kids who just got into a very good school, and we think you have potential. So please pay close attention, now: *When dialing off campus, you have to dial 7 to get out.* Remember that. Or some day soon, you just may not get that pizza you’re craving at three a.m.

Virginia Pasley is a senior at the College. Her views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



Congress and commonwealth must take action on fire safety

Walking around campus this week, it was difficult to find a bare space that did not have a Newsweek poster plastered to it. College administrators are rightfully proud of this accomplishment, although some of us wish they had chosen a more tactful color than neon yellow. However, as news of the College’s “hotness” has spread, so has the proliferation of the ironic jokes about Preston Hall. This caused a number of us freshmen to look around our dorm rooms nervously, seeking assurance that our things will not also become the victims of faulty electric equipment.

CBS news presented a story on dorm fires earlier this year in response to blazes that have killed upwards of 75 students in the past five years. One common factor in most dorm fires is the lack of fire sprinklers, meant to provide some level of containment and extra time for evacuation. Preston Hall, for instance, did not have a sprinkler system in place during the fire last year. There is a substantial body of research that has grown steadily over the years promoting the use of fire sprinklers in buildings, especially those with high levels of occupancy such as hotels, apartments and dorms. One has to wonder what might have been different in Preston’s case had there been such a system in place.

However, the administration here must be given its due. The rebuilding of Preston includes plans to install a sprinkler system in the attic, and, according to an interview with The Virginian-Pilot, there are plans to place sprinklers in other buildings over the next few years. In addition, over half of the dorms on campus have a system in place. Still, the College lags behind Virginia Tech, which has sprinklers in all dorm rooms. Luckily, we can take some comfort in the knowledge that the University of Virginia is woefully lacking, only having smoke and heat detectors. The same is true for Old Dominion University. We are certainly not the worst off, but we are far from being the best.

In spite of the danger of fires in dorms, there is no state or national law mandating the installation of sprinklers in existing dorms. In 2000,

Representatives Maloney (D-NY) and Holt (D-NJ) introduced the Fire Safe Dorm Act that would have mandated the installation of fire sprinklers in dorms across the country. However, the bill has stalled in committee, according to Lexis-Nexis. While there is new legislation pending that would grant \$100 million to colleges to update dorms, nothing has been passed as of yet. The result of this can and will be measured in more destruction of property and possibly lives.

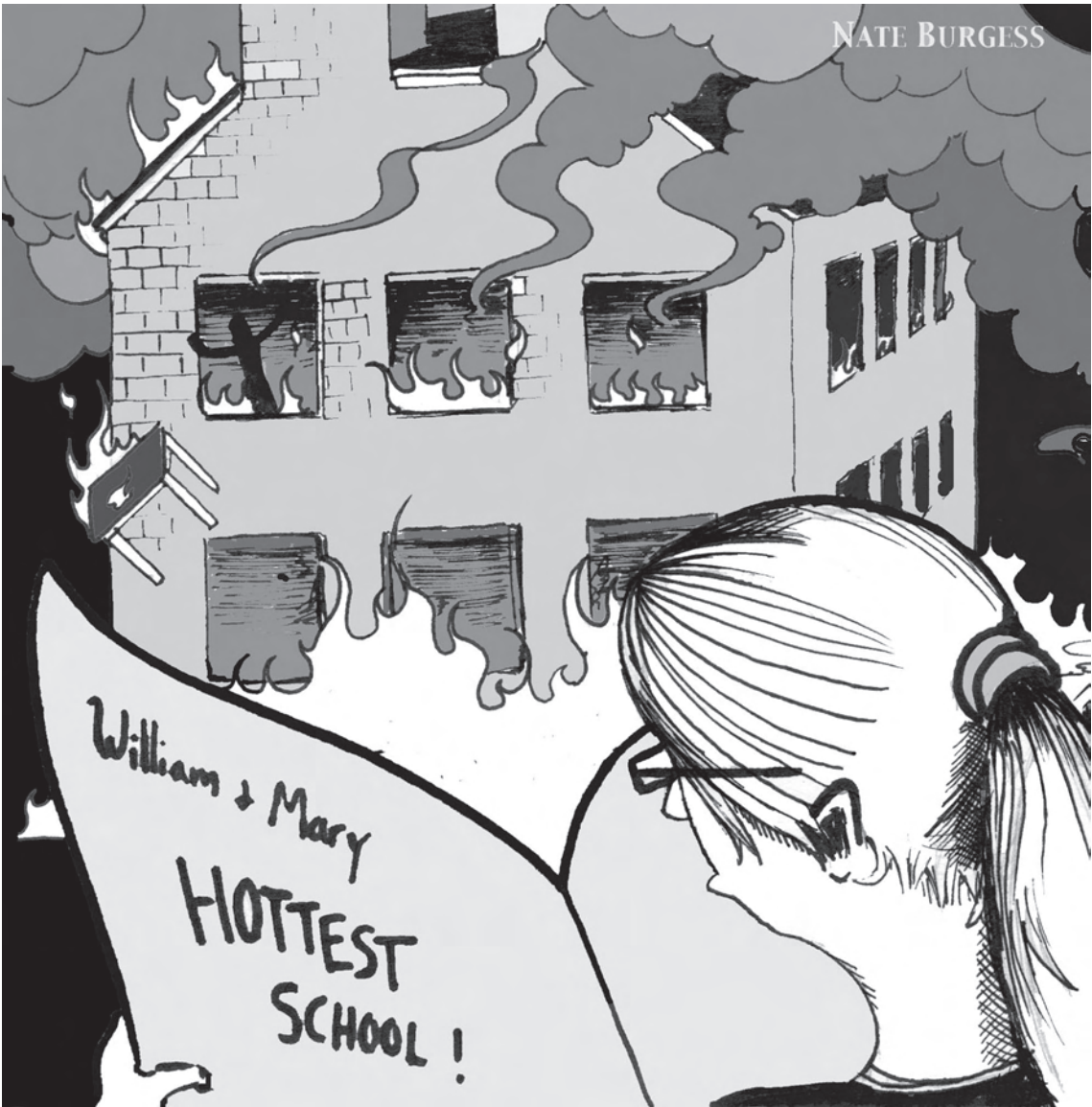
Virginia, demonstrating surprising foresight, has had a law in place requiring the installation of sprinklers in all new dorms for several years. While this is certainly an important step, those of us living in dorms older than 1990 are still a little ill at ease.

Unfortunately, it is unlikely that legislation or more importantly, funding, will come through on this issue. The General Assembly is still ruled in large part by the Grover Norquist, anti-tax Republicans. The tax increase made earlier in Warner’s term in an attempt to fix Gilmore’s car tax faux pas has its fund drained by countless necessary projects, such as I-64. In short, the state simply does not have money to dedicate to the installation of sprinklers and is unwilling to make the money by raising taxes.

The same is true for Congress, with attitude. Earlier this week, The Washington Post reported on GOP attempts to cut down on funds going to “entitlement spending,” such as Medicaid and the student loan program. The mood in D.C. seems to be eliminating necessary spending, not increasing it. Thus, the College is out of luck for funding to increase the fire safety of its dorms.

Fortunately, though, this coming year happens to be a gubernatorial election year, and the citizens of the Commonwealth will take a mild interest in the state of the state. While there is not a shift for change currently, a push before the November election giving greater exposure to the need for fire sprinklers might motivate some politicians to press for the necessary legislation, if for no other reason than that they “care.” However, if that leads to a greater protection from faulty wiring and failed kitchen fans, I’m all for it.

Ryan Jackson is a freshman at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.





Letters to the Editor

Meal plans leave students hungry for more  
To the editor:

I read the editorial “A Bad Meal Gets Worse” and couldn’t agree more with the criticism of the administration’s terrible logic in changing how the Marketplace does business. I would like to point out, though, that the problem goes much deeper than block meals not being accepted. The real problem is that the Marketplace leaves students wondering if any meal plan now in existence gives any worthwhile option for sustenance. Unfortunately, the answer is no. The block plan leaves students with far too few Flex Points to make up for the lack of meal options. The gold plans are no better because the meal options at the Marketplace are now so sparse. At the Italian eatery, only pizza is on the meal plan; pasta dishes must be flexed. At the Deli, one type of bread may be on the meal plan, but the one you want probably isn’t. I thought bread was bread, but the Marketplace once again had to educate my poor, misguided mind. So, even if you can and want to use your meal option with the gold plan, your options are too limited, and now you don’t have any Flex Points to make up for it. I sincerely hope the powers-that-be will hear our cry and give us the food for which we’ve paid. I for one pledge to write at least two comment cards to the manager every time I eat at the Marketplace until there is a change, or until I graduate, whichever comes first.

—Daniel Payne, ’06

Goodbye calm, hello chaos

A tsunami has hit, and it’s called college life. It’s my junior year; one would think I’d have the hang of the back-to-school routine by now.



Erica Parker

But for some reason, this semester’s transition has been harder than any other. Nothing seems to be going my way, and minor inconveniences

turn into major headaches. My stress level could combat a bomb builder’s, and all this leaves me asking, “why?”

I guess I should have seen it coming, what with the celestial downpour the day I moved in. It was as if the skies were shouting, “Welcome to the College. Prepare to be swamped.” Sadly, however, this omen eluded my notice. What was a little rain to a seasoned (figurative) swimmer?

Not much, actually; the rain wasn’t such a big deal. Neither were the bugs in my room. Or the severe lack of power outlets, which seems to be the trademark of the College’s own sadist architect. The exorbitant amount I spent on textbooks did irk me a bit, but still, I’m used to that. So what was it, I wondered, that had me feeling so overwhelmed? What was this ball and chain wrapped around my ankle, pulling me beneath the surface, making me struggle for breath?

My friends and family had some possible answers for me. “Moving back is a big adjustment,” my mother offered. “You’ve been taking it easy all summer, and now everything’s hitting you all at once.” True enough. I did have a pretty lazy summer: days on the lake, visits with friends and some pretty fantastic naps. Needless to say, school is a whole other ball game. The classes, meetings, and mountains of work don’t even begin to cover it. Yet mom’s answer was not enough to satisfy me. Despite my occasional sluggishness, I love meeting a challenge head-on. The College’s demanding environment was one of the reasons I chose this school. And I’ve always been a

person who can adapt to change. From complete boredom to a jam-packed schedule in a matter of days? No problem. This adjustment theory was not a viable explanation.

Another issue that was bothering me was a little thing called Add/Drop. Perhaps this was the source of my affliction. The first day of class was intimidating in a major way, probably because I was already doubting my ability to handle 16 credits, a part-time job and several extra-curricular activities at once. Should I keep all my classes? Drop one? Exchange one for something easier? In past semesters I had no qualms about taking precisely what I wanted, and no more. But this time, it was different. Graduation requirements have certainly become more pressing, but there was something else that confronted me with the weight of my decisions. Every class seemed to be a stepping stone toward something bigger, and the classes I chose would determine what that something would be. In other words, I was choosing my future.

And then it hit me. The future. The ever-ominous, unknown future. This, it turns out, was the twenty-foot wave threatening to crash over my head. Everything around me was telling me to choose a future, to choose the course my life would take. The time for merely enjoying learning was over; it was time to make my education count for something. It was no longer possible to keep all of my options open, because there just wasn’t room in my schedule, or life, to prepare for everything the world has to offer. I had to choose. I hate choosing. I suppose this indecisiveness goes hand-in-hand with my adaptable nature; I like a little bit of everything but don’t love anything so much that I would never want a change. A career-driven society just isn’t cut out for a person like me; no single job could ever fulfill my variant desires. But while I’m in this imperfect world, I’ll have to make do with my line of best fit. And in the meantime, I’ll be keeping my eyes peeled for the “parallel lives” option on my next career interest survey.

Erica Parker is a junior at the College. Her views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

Crim Dell curse claims more than just students

As members of the student body of the College, we have all heard about the tradition surrounding the Crim Dell. I’m fairly certain any tour guide or OA who mistakenly fails to



Jess Johnston

mention the bridge faces dire consequences. For any unfortunate soul who somehow managed to miss the bridge memo, I’ll recap.

If you walk across the Crim Dell bridge alone, you’ll be single for the rest of your life. If you walk across it with your significant other, you’ll

get married. The only way to avoid this marriage involves pushing your significant other off the bridge into the water. Simple enough. We all regard the myth with varied degrees of skepticism. While I don’t consider myself to be superstitious, I experience enough problems with the opposite sex already. I find myself fully capable of mismanaging my love life. I really don’t need the bridge’s help. I doubt I’m alone in this matter, as I can’t remember the last time I saw anyone walking across the bridge. However, I know there are those who believe the story to be an irrelevant myth that has no bearing on reality. To those of you who find themselves eager

to tempt tradition, I’d like to offer the following story as a caveat.

While in L.A. this summer, I accidentally ended up in a gay nightclub. I was with friends who “forgot” to mention that the club was primarily frequented by homosexuals, and I naively believed that the scantily-clad men dancing with each other were simply a representation of West Coast culture.

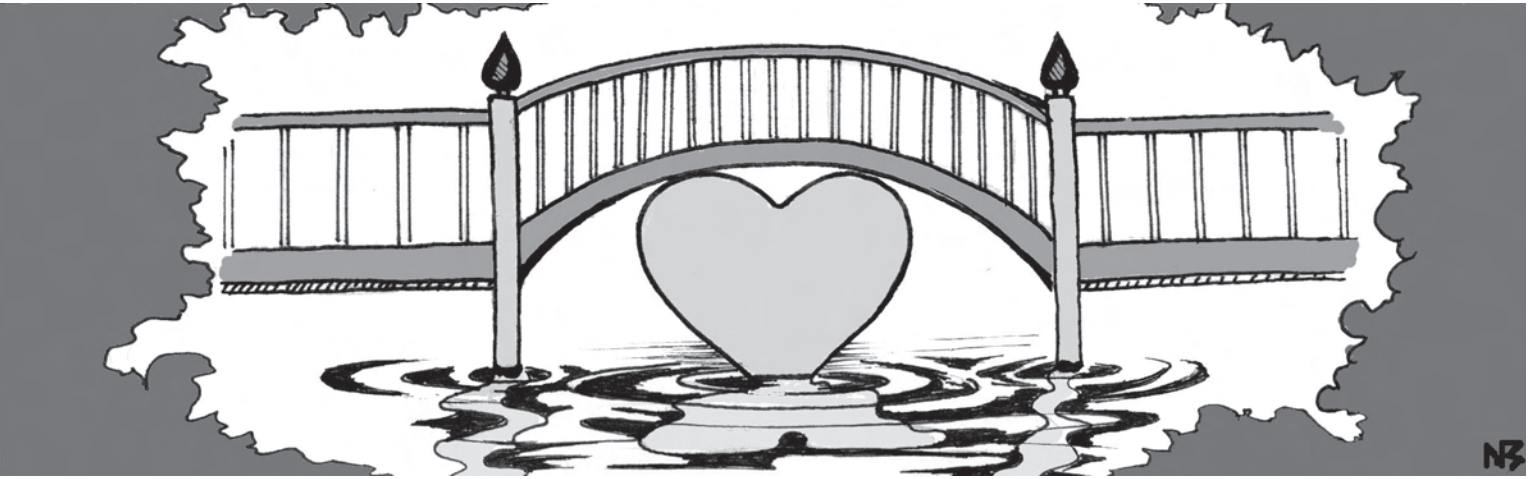
While occupying this fairly unique environment, I happened to sit down next to a guy named John. After brief introductions, he asked the question we all hear on a daily basis: “Where do you go to school?” I replied, fully expecting this random L.A. club-goer to be utterly unaware of the College. He immediately declared that he had flown to Virginia to attend the College’s graduation the previous year. I was shocked. He explained that he had been dating a guy whose younger sibling was graduating from the College. Apparently John had joined his boyfriend’s family to celebrate the occasion. It was at this point that John mentioned “the bridge” and explained that he walked across it with his ex-boyfriend. Apparently, he had also fallen off the bridge into the water, an event which he attributed to this ex-boyfriend. It was at this point that I found it necessary to share the tradition of the Crim Dell. I explained that if he walked across the bridge with his significant

other, he would marry that person. However, if the significant other pushed him off, their relationship would end. John seemed to make the connection mentally, then sadly announced, “If I had known that, I wouldn’t have let him push me off the bridge. Then we could still be together.”

I had never before been confronted with the wrath of the tradition. It always seemed like a cute and fairly harmless legend. I felt horrible and partially responsible for John’s unhappiness. As a student I should take responsibility for explaining the legend to unaware visitors. At the very least, the perils of the bridge should be posted on a sign somewhere by that random bird statue.

My conversation with John ended. I had sufficiently depressed him, and he left indicating that he needed to meet a guy who could cheer him up. It was at this point that I realized I had not been talking to just one gay individual; I was now surrounded by them. I immediately made a mental note to improve my gaydar, then left the club to return home with my friends. So, if any of you are tempted to take a chance on the Crim Dell tradition, I pose one question: if a gay man from L.A. can’t escape the wrath of the bridge, can you?

Jess Johnson is a sophomore at the College. Her views do not necessarily represent those of the Flat Hat.



How to beat the heat, even at the ‘hottest’ school

I’m no stranger to the college experience. After spending two years studying the habits and lifestyles of the average inebriated



Nadia Frolenkova

college student at the University of Maryland, College Park, I am now a transfer junior at this fine institution, and paying some \$10,000 more per

year for my education. The extra money shows up in the little things the school boasts: access to wireless Internet from most locations on campus, a full kitchen on every floor — and yet when I moved into Dillard last weekend, I was flattened by a decidedly low-tech enemy: the heat.

Now, I’m not complaining; I love me some wireless, but dear university administration: priorities. If the wiring in certain dorms is so dilapidated that it can’t handle air-conditioning units, why not take care of that first? I’m sure the minor inconvenience of having to hook a

cable to your laptop is nothing compared to the agony of having the skin of your legs stick to your chair in the oppressively moist heat.

So, what’s a hapless College student stuck in one of the many dorms without air-conditioning to do?

First, wear skimpy clothing. This is the least effective of all the methods but the biggest self-esteem boost. If you’re feelin’ hot, you might as well dress hot. Its benefits include instant, if dubious, popularity among the boys at the other end of your residential hall.

Second, buy a dozen fans and strategically position them about your room. While this is marginally more effective, a couple of pesky consequences: fans tend to break often and cost considerable moolah, especially for a starving college student. Try to get your parents to bankroll the purchase. Furthermore, if your room is anything like my room, you barely have any place to fit in a small TV, much less a couple of extra fans.

Third, spend time with friends who have air-conditioned rooms. If you’re one of those lucky souls, you’ve noticed that you’re suddenly

the toast of the town and that everybody wants to be your friend and hang out in your room. Well, that’s not just because you’re a vision of wit, wisdom and beauty.

Fourth, place tin foil over your windows. The properties of tin foil are such that it will deflect light and heat from your window, turning your room into a veritable Batcave and making it a few degrees colder. This is the perfect solution for any of you computer science majors who don’t care much for the sun, anyway. Just make sure you ask your color-pink-loving, curtain-hanging roommate before you tape the windows up; she might not care for that particular decorative touch. Whether or not the fire marshal likes the foil is also debatable.

Fifth, spend a lot of time at Swem or in the dining halls. This is also effective, but has consequences. Rest assured, you’ll see a lot of Swem from the inside come finals and midterm time, so why start early? And spending extra time in the dining halls tends to exacerbate the “freshman 15,” which may eventually become the “senior 50.”

Sixth, build your own air conditioner. For the hardcore, there’s

always Google, where, if you type in “homemade air conditioner,” you will get a site that instructs you on how to build one. After attempting to construct such an air conditioner, I regret to inform you that more technical knowledge than either I or my friends possess is required. Furthermore, though our air conditioner needs no electricity to operate, it does need a vat of water, of which your RA might not be a fan. At least you’d be well-equipped for any dorm fires, though.

All of which brings me to the conclusion that there’s simply no fighting the heat when it hits Williamsburg. No wonder the College made Newsweek’s Hottest Schools list. As for me, the next time the temperature climbs over 80° F, I’ll be in the student lounge on the second floor of Munford Hall, clinging to the air-conditioner for dear life and trying to come up with a credible health condition to put on my air conditioner medical necessity form. Allergic to heat? Yes, that’ll do it. Cough, cough.

Nadia Frolenkova is a junior at the College. Her views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

Highway robbery: the Transportation ‘Equity’ Act

The recently-passed Transportation Equity Act has not received nearly enough public scrutiny for its massive price tag of \$286 billion, or roughly one and a half times the



Joshua Powers

financial cost of the war in Iraq. This transportation bill does include commendable proposals such as incentives for states to mandate the use of safety belts as well as automobile standards which will take effect by 2009 in hopes of achieving rollover prevention. However, the bill also

includes 6,371 highway projects added by members of Congress, both Republicans and Democrats. While members involved in the congressional budgeting process prefer to use the term “earmarks” for these unnecessary projects, I shall call them precisely what they are: pork-barrel pieces of legislation, intended for members to increase their popularity in their districts and hence bring about an assured 2006 election victory.

Indeed, even the wording of the bill’s title, Transportation Equity Act, misrepresents the

actual impact of the legislation. For example, the state of Alaska, the third least-populated state, was allocated the fourth largest sum of money, \$941 million, due in large part to the support from Representative Don Young. “Don Young’s Way” is the name that will now adorn the new \$231 million bridge near Anchorage, and though his name won’t appear on the \$223 million bridge to Ketchikan, his constituents will remember who was responsible for its construction. Additionally, the Prairie Parkway will now be constructed in Dennis Hastert’s district outside of Chicago under the pretense of reducing traffic in the area. However, officials believe the \$207 million project will do little to ease Chicago-area congestion.

At this point, you may be asking yourself how such widespread pork-barrel spending could ease its way through Congress without a major fight on behalf of American taxpayers. The answer to this question lies in the pessimistic, though somewhat realistic, view of Congress as a conspiracy manipulated by incumbents with the aim of holding on to their seats. Republicans trying to maintain their majorities in the House and the Senate keep the Democratic opposition silent by offering their left-wing counterparts pork of their own so that

they, too, may be assured of victory in the next congressional election. President George W. Bush did indeed initially place a spending cap of an already outrageous sum of \$284 billion dollars, but decided to compromise with the finalized \$286 billion sum after two years of failed negotiations within Congress on how to address the pervasive disparities in pork spending among the states.

Hence, there is little wonder why Congress is the least popular institution of the U.S. government. Even with a war halfway across the world claiming the lives of American soldiers daily, a skyrocketing national debt and a meltdown in health care insurance and Medicare costs, Congress has the audacity to pass a \$286 billion transportation bill to assure themselves of election victories. American taxpayers understand the need for members to be responsive to the requests of constituents, but if congressmen were a little less concerned with their re-election and more concerned with dealing with the complex issues facing our nation, perhaps they wouldn’t have to be apprehensive about their job stability in the first place.

Joshua Powers is a junior at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

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Our President shares his thoughts on our 'hotness,' Timmy J, and the best food on campus  
See THAT GUY, page 9.



## MTV calls show to campus

By LISA BATEMAN  
THE FLAT HAT

"DO YOU WANT TO BE ON MTV?" Students of the College within shouting distance of the Sunken Gardens at noon on Monday, undoubtedly heard Ghost, a contestant on MTV's newest show, screaming this question as loud as he possibly could. It certainly was not a typical day on campus. Classes were still in session with students presumably in attendance, but those students lucky enough to have their lunch break at noon flocked to the Sunken Gardens in hopes of seeing themselves in the background of "Call to Greatness," an MTV show that will air in late October.

The show features five contestants (Ghost, Rainbow, Andreas, Paul and Drew) who travel across the country attempting to break various world records. These world records range from ridiculous, such as the "pudding toss" that took place on the Sunken Gardens, to dangerous, such as riding a four-wheeler through fire. By the close of the show, the contestants will have traveled to California, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Hawaii, New York and Virginia, with one episode filmed in each state.

When asked why she chose the Sunken Gardens to film a segment of the show, Julie Reading, the executive producer of "The Call to Greatness," explained, "I went to school in Richmond, so I wanted to include Virginia as one of the locations for the show. Virginia has a certain style unlike other areas." Of course, the wide open space of the Sunken Gardens is ideal not only for a game of ultimate frisbee or capture the flag, but also for "Pudding Plunking," a tradition originally brought to America by British settlers in which contestants use a frying pan to toss a nylon sock filled with "blood pudding" as far as possible. The contestants are trying to break the 118' 2" world record for the pudding toss. Since the College's history dates back to the British settlers, MTV apparently saw Pudding Plunking as a perfect fit. At least 200 students tore themselves away from their busy Monday schedules to be a part of the excitement.

There was already a fairly large crowd in the Sunken Gardens when the MTV tour bus arrived. "The show has been one huge road trip. All of the contestants have gotten to be really close," said Reading. As soon as the tour bus pulled up, the five contestants

See Mtv + page 8



ANDY DESOTO + THE FLAT HAT

*A crowd of students from the College gathered Monday at the Sunken Gardens to watch some record-breaking "pudding toss." The event was part of "Call to Greatness," MTV's latest reality show. "Call to Greatness" will be airing late next month.*



COURTESY PHOTO, THE MUSCARELLE MUSEUM OF ART

## New exhibit explores nature's wild side

By LAUREN BLEAM  
THE FLAT HAT

Each new school year brings with it a myriad of delights and distractions, and it is easy to miss important opportunities in the chaos of it all. However, one opportunity that students and faculty should take care not to miss is a display of the work of Charles Muscarelle Museum of Art.

"Charles E. Burchfield: Backyards and Beyond" is an exhibit organized by the Burchfield-Penny Art Center. The paintings and sketches were brought to the museum by the decision of an executive committee.

"I have been looking for a Burchfield show for some time now. He was an independent artist, which means that he did not follow someone else's style. He was a very influential artist, and so it is good for us to have him on display," Museum Curator Ann Madonia said.

Although many of the inhabitants of the College may not recognize the name of Charles Burchfield, Burchfield played an influential part in the history of modern art. All his life, Burchfield was absolutely captivated by the weather, and many of his works personify nature in vibrant emotional ways revolutionary in his day. According to Heather Campbell, curator of education at the museum, Burchfield recorded observations about the weather on a calendar when he was young. Several of his paintings express his passion about the weather, and the strong feelings that he associated with it.

Burchfield was born in 1893, the son of a schoolteacher and a tailor, in Salem, Ohio. He did many things in his life, from serving in the armed forces to designing wallpaper. He graduated from the Cleveland School of Art and married Bertha Kenreich in

See WILD + page 8

## Reggae Band Jah-ms



COURTESY PHOTO, SOJAMUSIC.COM

By ELIZABETH COLE  
THE FLAT HAT

It's that time of year again. The beginning of another school year finds students scurrying off to classes, pouring over readings and sinking into the rhythm of long days and longer nights. UCAB's Fall Season of Fridays @ 5, a series of free concerts could be the perfect way to de-compress, de-stress and digress from a wearied week of studying.

Today, SOJA, a reggae band fully titled Soldiers of Jah Army, will kick off UCAB's concert series. Hailed as one of the best reggae bands in the Washington D.C. area, SOJA makes a return visit to the College after an impressive show last fall hosted by Pi Kappa Alpha. UCAB concert coordinator Sam Rogers hopes SOJA will give as rousing a performance as he remembers of last year's show.

"I was blown away by the response of the eclectic crowds," Rogers said. He described their sound as underwritten with mellow moods and laced with political timeliness. Their sometimes leftist lyrics, however, yield to the band's overarching and self-proclaimed message: rising up

See JAH-MS + page 8

## In feuding, 'hater' culture, where has all love gone?

### CONFUSION CORNER



Charlotte Savino

Where is the love? Oh Black Eyed Peas, so wise beyond their years, could it be they had the College in mind? It seems to me there is a culture of feuders on campus. Popped collars are such a bone of contention that you'd think they were the manifestation of white upper-class elitism ... oh wait. But what if you just think Paris' style is hot and like to get it poppin' (your collar that is) every so often? Must you fend off player haters to express all of those inner feelings that can only be shown through the manner of wearing your shirt? I just don't see why we waste the effort to feud over non-entities. Perhaps we speak in hyperbole for the ease of it all. Polarity gives us the simplicity of two options — so love, or totally hate.

Even when the other side of the battlefield is empty, it would appear we keep waging the war. Let's be honest, UVA doesn't care about us. Still, even I am a culprit in perpetuating this one-sided battle against the Charlottesville

institution; as a tour guide I tell the prospective a little anecdote about the T.J. statue between the Washington and McGlothlin-Street Halls. As lore has it, when UVA gave us the statue for our tercentennial year, their intention was to have Jefferson gaze lovingly out toward Charlottesville. It follows that as a direct dig to our long-standing rival, the college has T.J. looking into the Washington second floor girls' bathroom, the exact opposite direction from UVA. But whence did this feud begin? Surely the UVA-themed frat party is not just an excuse for closet preps to let it all out, but rather must be the proper punishment for some ancient affront to the College. Not so? Could we harbor a feud for no other purpose than feuding?

From our young pre-school days, sorting has been a valued skill, at first red marbles from yellow ones and now the tools from the cool (you'll have to excuse me for that one). A friend of mine once questioned my aggression

toward some dude. "Why do you hate him so?" she asked, to which I responded, "Oh I don't know, I don't really have a reason to like him." And it seemed the matter was settled, the default for not liking has become hating, simple and uncomplicated.

Think it's just the students who enjoy a good head-to-head? Faculty joins in the adversarial fun, too (around fund-raising time). The College offers prizes to the department whose graduating majors donate the most money to the school. If you saw the flyers posted around Tucker at the end of last year, you know that the English department was out for blood even if they were only actually out for a boombox.

Notwithstanding how lame it is that we can't afford to give each department the boombox it truly deserves, I was impressed by how witty the flyers were. "Don't let the History department win!" was one stellar

attempt at pitting the two disciplines against each other, but the more "Mean Girls"-inspired tactic showed an atrociously spelled and ill-written poster with z's for s's something to the effect of "Giv Uz Muny! (A Hizzorie Mager Rote Thiz Sine)." Pretty fetch if you ask me. ME-ow to you, English department, for continuing our tradition of keeping rivalries alive, if only in jest.

Now, I'm all for a good beef every once in a while, but isn't a catfight better when there's something concrete and juicy behind it? Mmmm, juicy beef ... reminds me how much I just hate those vegetarians for no other reason than they don't share in my enjoyment of animal flesh. I guess they do have those cute PETA stickers though. Conflict avoided.

*Charlotte Savino is a Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She loves me and she loves you too ... just as long as you don't try to un-pop her collar, bitch.*



VarietyCalendar

Highlights of the week

— compiled by max fisher

McGee returns

♦ This upcoming Thursday the Pat McGee Band returns to campus with a performance at the Matoaka Amphitheatre. Students pay \$3, and you probably weren't doing anything, anyway. The band will be performing material from their new album, "Save Me." The show is at 5:30 p.m.

Volunteer fair

♦ The Office of Student Volunteer Services will host their fair this upcoming Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m. in the University Center's lobby. 35 agencies will be there to discuss what they offer. Two information sessions will be held at 7 p.m.: international service trips in Tidewater Room B and Williamsburg Community Hospital in the Commonwealth Auditorium.

Music festival

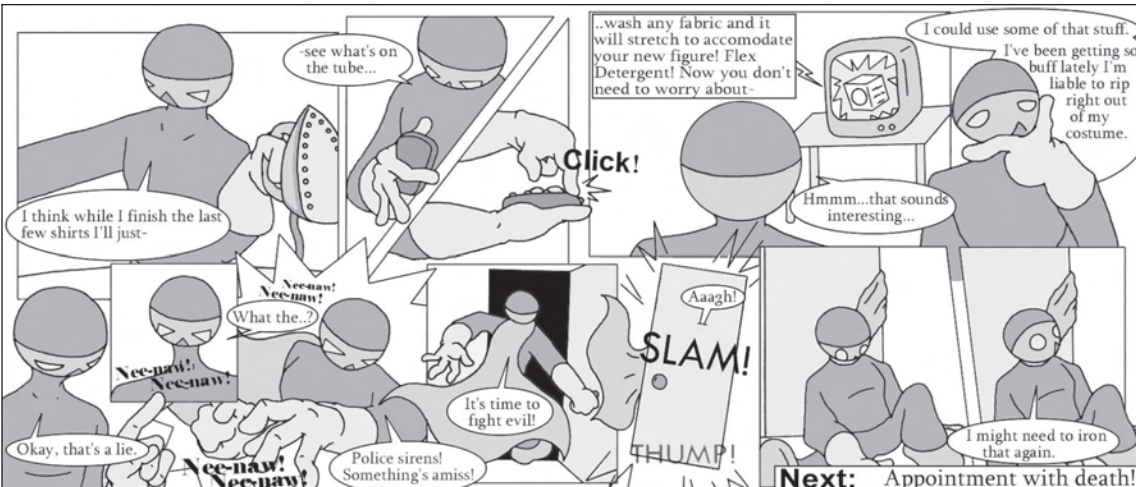
♦ This weekend, Virginia Beach hosts the largest outdoor multi-day music festival on the east coast. Headliners by night are Hootie and The Blowfish today for \$12, Leann Rimes tomorrow for \$15, Journey and Vertical Horizon Sunday for \$20 and Ted "The Nuge" Nugent for free Monday.

To have an event printed in the Variety Calendar, call x3281 before 5 p.m. Tuesday.



Hulabaloo

By Nate Loerhke



Heroman

By Thomas Baumgardner

Horoscopes

Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



This week you will come to the stunning and life-changing revelation that show-ering is not an every-other-day activity. We foresee soap in your future.

Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



When you're too tired for class, watch "The Godfather" instead. It offers far better lessons than most GERs teach all year. Leave the gun, take the cannoli.

Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



Pissed off your profs by showing up to class drunk again? Drop it and add a different section. Add/drop: the Registrar's week for sanctioned raging.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



There's no denying it; you have bad taste in music. Throw out your old CDs (yes, even your beloved Nelly) and pick up the new Death Cab disc.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



Plagiarism is serious business, so you need a better excuse than "divine inspiration" to explain the literature essay you copied out of last month's Cosmo.

Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18



When the moon is in the seventh house and Jupiter aligns with Mars, peace will guide the planets and you should get tested for chlamydia.

Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20



You will have the difficult choice of which of two girls to bring home. The correct choice, of course, is to vomit on yourself and pass out in the bathroom.

Aries: March 21 - April 19



You will learn the hard lesson that, while three days is money, waiting 10 days to call is just too long. And there's nothing money about sleeping alone.

Taurus: April 20 - May 20



Books are expensive, but whoring yourself out to tourists for hot, colonial-style sex is no way to live. But we must say, you're smokin' in that bonnet.

Gemini: May 21 - June 21



20% of adults believe the sun rotates around the Earth, so your theory that the sun rides on the back of a great beetle circling the sky may not be so bad.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22



Truth hurts, Cancer, but its time you knew: you're just not funny. Quit shout-ing "Old School" and "Billie Madison" quotes and you may get slapped less.

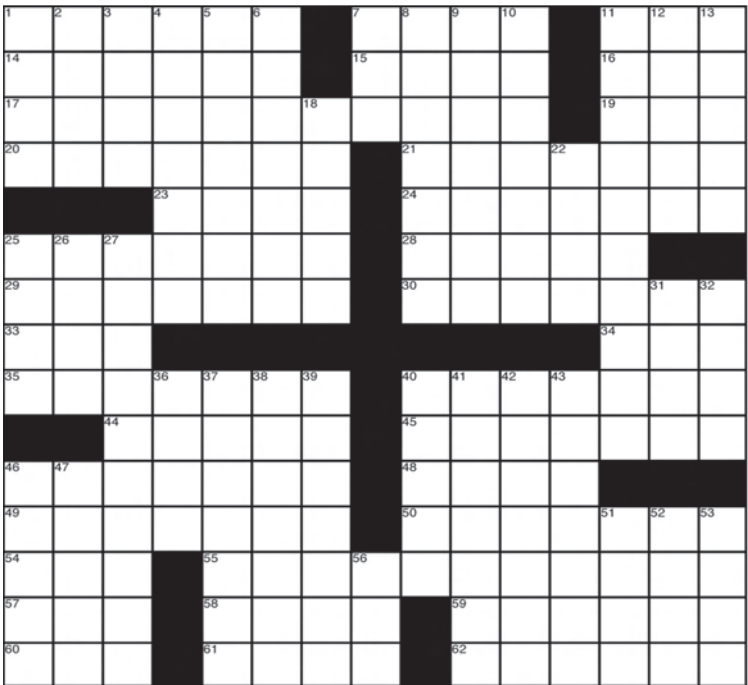
Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22



Cure Saturday night's boredom by going to the UCAB laser tag game. You won't have any fun, but at least you'll get out of the dorm room for once.

..... compiled by max fisher .....

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Unposed photo
- 7. Streisand, infanzines
- 11. Cpl.'s superior
- 14. Tom, Dick or Harry
- 15. Year in Henry I's reign
- 16. Court
- 17. Military meal manager
- 19. Set off
- 20. Used a sauna
- 21. What "bathy-" means
- 23. Homeboys' "fraternity"
- 24. Consulate's kin
- 25. Somewhat firm
- 28. Track tournaments
- 29. Woolen cloth
- 30. Homes of the rich and famous
- 33. Beauty preceder?
- 34. Epoch
- 35. Hieroglyphic stone locale
- 40. Musical counterpoint
- 44. Prison guard, in slang
- 45. Air shafts for mines
- 46. Lewd
- 48. Sweep with binoculars
- 49. Decapitates
- 50. Hearty?
- 54. Clockmaker Terry
- 55. Embroidery style
- 57. Kind of camera: Abbr.
- 58. Margarita garnish
- 59. Author Welty
- 60. Grab a bite
- 61. "Waiting for the Robert \_\_\_\_"
- 62. Let live

DOWN

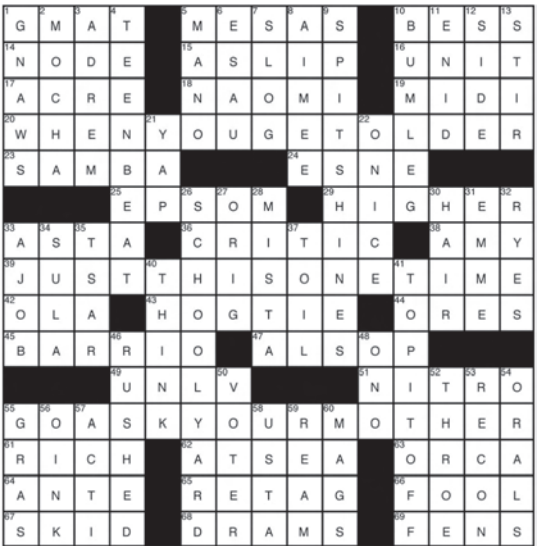
- 1. Rotating engineparts
- 2. Over
- 3. Amex alternative
- 4. Pharmacist's concerns
- 5. Coffee choice
- 6. Diplomat's quest
- 7. Mercedes competitor
- 8. University environment
- 9. Ancient galleys

- 10. Auxiliary wager
- 11. Diner entree
- 12. Al et al.
- 13. Hungarian wine
- 18. Nosed (out)
- 22. \_\_\_\_-cake (baby's game)
- 25. "Suppose they gave \_\_\_\_"
- 26. Sign of The Times?
- 27. Tuxedo accompaniment
- 31. River to Donegal Bay
- 32. Hurdles for srs.
- 36. Behold, to Pilate
- 37. Something cloying
- 38. Plant runner
- 39. Absolutely fabulous
- 40. Platters
- 41. Covers completely
- 42. Nascent company
- 43. Shaw play

- 46. Corpulent
- 47. Italian's word of approval
- 51. "Ripley's Believe \_\_\_\_ Not!"
- 52. 4,047 square meters
- 53. Neighbor of Nigeria
- 56. Bishop's jurisdiction

Source: The New York Times

Last week's solution



MTV

FROM PAGE 7

jumped out and began mingling with students of the College. Hannah Perry, a freshman, got the opportunity to speak with Andreas. "He had a 'too cool for school' look, so I was wondering who he was, but then he came over and started talking to us. He was very friendly and told us a lot about himself," said Perry.

Students were excited to have an opportunity to talk to the contestants and hear about their adventures. The only drawback to the event was the fact that it

did take place at class time. Freshman Jenny Dorand said "I think it's so exciting MTV is here. I just wish it would start though, because I have a class at one, and I don't want to have to miss the show."

Senior Patrick Decker also said that he thought more students would have been there to check out the event if it had not been on a Monday.

"I think it's kind of sad that a lot of people couldn't show up," he said.

For those students unable to attend the event, the show is set to air at the end of October on Sunday nights at 10:30. Those who missed the event just might see yourself in the background cheering on the contestants.

WILD

FROM PAGE 7

1922. They had six children. He also taught in several prominent universities throughout the country.

As Burchfield became more experienced, he began using more expressive colors and moving away from the more realistic depiction of nature into the realm of the abstract. Nature, however, it was always present as his main inspiration.

Burchfield drew his inspiration from several cultural sources, including the books he was reading and his favorite music. For example, several of his works were influenced by Beethoven's symphonies. One of the most intriguing aspects of this exhibition are the sketches on display in which Burchfield played with his medium and developed plans for later paintings. Quotes from

journals that Burchfield kept throughout his life about his pieces are also illuminating. Another notable part of the show is the print room in the back, which now houses several prints on which Burchfield and a contemporary named JJ Lankes collaborated.

When asked how the museum relates to college students and the surrounding community, Campbell said that the museum wants to be a valuable resource and that it is always open to any professors or students who would like to look at its collection for a class. "The Museum is a good fit with studio art, art history, psychology, archaeology or really any discipline; art fits in with everything," Campbell said.

The museum also employs several student volunteers and interns every year, and the Museum-University Student Exchange (MUSE) works with the Muscarelle to help it better serve College students.

Recently, the Muscarelle welcomed a new director who graduated from the College 20 years ago and served as a volunteer for the museum while attending school. He said he has several new ideas to make the museum more effective in the coming years.

We can expect many more positive contributions to the college from this significant museum in the years to come.

The museum's gallery hours are Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday noon to 4 p.m., and Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The Muscarelle is closed Monday and Tuesday. The College students and faculty receive free admission. This newest show opened to the public on Saturday and closes October 23rd., so you still have plenty of time to go see it.

So extricate yourself from the back-to-school web of obligations and take some visit the Muscarelle.

Ken Brownwell on percussion and Patrick O'Shea on keyboards.

As natives of the Washington, D.C. area, the band received nominations from the D.C. Reggae Awards and the Washington Area Music Association.

Their first recording, "Creeping In," a 13-track cassette produced independently, garnered acclaim among the D.C./Baltimore Rastafari community. A growing fan base and local recognition drove the production of SOJA's two subsequent albums, the most recent of which dropped in 2003. UCAB is excited to be hitting the ground running by having SOJA perform on the UC terrace today.

JAH-MS

FROM PAGE 7

today for the children of tomorrow. Songs with such titles as "Rasta Courage," "Forgive Don't Forget" and "True Love" capture SOJA's inspirational spirit. Lilted beats hark back to reggae's earlier roots and provide a pleasing backdrop for what Rogers describes as "intriguingly basic" songs.

The soldiers of SOJA are Jacob Hemphill singing lead vocals, Bob "Bobby Lee" Jefferson lending bass and lead vocals, Ryan "Bird" Berty on drums,





# That Guy: Gene Nichol

By TEGAN NEUSTATTER  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Last May, many of the students at the College were sad to see the end of former president Timmy J's 13-year reign. However, the silver lining on this cloud is that the College has a new, energetic and very cool president to take his place. Gene Nichol, former dean of the law school at UNC-Chapel Hill, is back (after teaching here 20 years ago) to bring some fresh perspective to our school. This week, Nichol gives us his two cents on the future of the College, why we're so hot and the joys of fine dining on campus.

**Are you liking it here at the College so far?**

Yes, it's the kind of place that takes your breath away. It's been an interesting couple of months, but particularly this last month with all the students arriving.

**What made you leave the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill to become the College's 26th president?**

I taught here when I was young; I was a law professor in the early '80s. I met my wife here, and my first child was born here. We're no strangers to Williamsburg. But the real pull for me was not that we had been here before, but because we think this is one of the greater institutions of higher learning in the world. It is literally a treasure. If you are interested in public higher education, like I am, then William and Mary occupies a unique position. It's appealing, and it's challenging. I'm very drawn to the College of William and Mary and its future, especially right now more than six months ago. As you know, we were recently rated "America's hottest small state school."

**What do you think it is about the College that makes it hot?**

It's interesting because I've heard a lot of discussion about the pros and cons of whether William and Mary is the most exciting place for a college student. I do think that it is a reflection of the appeal the College has and that it is a tribute to the accomplishments of the College. It certainly was not what I was expecting.

**What are your thoughts about following in the footsteps of our beloved former President, Timothy Sullivan?**

I must say that it's a real challenge following in the footsteps of a very effective leader and a class act. In fact, the first couple of times the search committee [for a new president] called me, I thought, "Who would be crazy enough to follow Tim Sullivan?" But I guess we found out. The good news is that I will take up the reins in a very good place. The College is a much better institution than when I was a faculty member, and that has certain implications for the way I approach the job. One of them is that I came here drawn to the spirit of engagement between the faculty and students, and even the administration and the students. It's not something that will occur or can occur in the larger universities — which is why I have a lot on my plate. Tim [Sullivan] set a very high bar on that. However, the interaction between students and faculty is why I teach and why I was drawn here. I'm going to be involved, and I'm going to take the time to learn this institution as completely and as quickly as I can.

**Now that your "era" has started, any big plans for the future?**

First, let me say that I come thinking that this is a tremendous school — it doesn't need me to explain to it what it has been doing so marvelously for centuries. I hope to continue this trajectory of progress that I think has been reflected in the faculty and student attainment. There's never been as much progress as we've seen over the last couple of decades. Given the attainment of the place, I am particularly interested in taking a lot of time to talk to people about the strengths and weaknesses of the College, getting to know it, asking a lot of questions. I'm hoping in the years to come we can become more diverse as an institution and more internationally focused. I'm hoping that we can take our public obligation more seriously. I have a lot of hopes, but I am going to be spending time talking to the broader base of this community.

**Finally, if you had to eat at one place for the rest of the year, would it be the Caf, the Marketplace or Center Court?**

I haven't yet been to the re-opened Caf yet, so based on my present experiences, I would say the Marketplace. However, I anticipate that when I do eat at the new Caf, I'm going to love it and I'm going to be there a lot.

# Putting hand(s) to good use

Does anyone remember the base system? You know, back in high school, when a friend hooked up, probably in the backseat of their parent's minivan after the football game, the first question was always, "What base did you get to?" It was a handy

## BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



Kate  
Prengaman

system, allowing you to refer to a sexual act without actually having to talk about it, a plus for awkward, uncomfortable adolescents.

Let's see, first-basing was kissing (with or without tongue, right?), second base was boobs, third was getting in the pants and we all know what the home run was. Or, alternatively, second could refer to any sort of handiwork, while third was more of the oral variety. Now, a little older and a little wiser, we've learned that sex is a lot more complicated and has a lot more varieties than four consecutive steps allow. Plus, we're less ashamed of actually talking about it. However, sexual maturity has its consequences as well. For example, what ever happened to that elusive act, sometimes second base, sometimes third, the classic handjob?

At first consideration, handjobs bring back unpleasant memories of the first awkward time you touched someone else's "private area" and then didn't know what to do. So, we quickly moved on to easier and more fulfilling techniques like oral sex. Oral sex is great fun, and it feels pretty good even when the person giving it isn't amazingly talented. But we all know that an unskilled hand job can verge on painful. On the other hand, a really good handjob can have you moaning for more. So now that we're a bit more grown up, with a little more experience and skill, it's time to bring back the handjob. Are you with me?

Anyway, the point is that there's no reason not to include a good handjob in your sexual repertoire. The operative word is good. A good handjob isn't simple; it takes a little more precision and technique, but when you get it right, it can be damn good. The key is to pay attention to the details of exactly how your partner likes to be touched, and in this case, everybody has their personal preferences.

To give a guy a really great handjob, lubrication is key. For this you have two options: either incorporate it with some oral action, to use your saliva as lube, or just grab some lotion or KY (if you're going to have sex soon after, make sure you use a water-based lube that won't affect the condom). Use one hand on the shaft, gripping in the middle and moving up to the tip and back down. You



want to be moving the skin, not scraping against it with your hand. You can go straight up and down, or change pressure as you move, or even add a twist. Test a variety of grips and speeds until you see his happy face. For extra credit, use your free hand to play with his testicles or apply some pressure to the area just behind them. If you need to put your lips or tongue to good use, the balls will usually appreciate them, or just kiss or gently bite the inner thighs. Ask him what feels best; and go from there.

To give a girl a really great handjob, decide on a starting position. Do you need to be able to see what you are doing (which can be pretty hot), or can you just go from feel? I'd recommend starting where you can see, which would mean sitting between her legs somehow. If you're confident, try sitting behind her so she's lying on you, so you can easily have your hands where they need to be, and you can kiss her neck or whisper in her ear as you go. Move your fingers slowly and softly at first. Use one hand to hold open the lips of the vagina and the other to pay attention to the clitoris. As you experiment, ask her what she likes best.

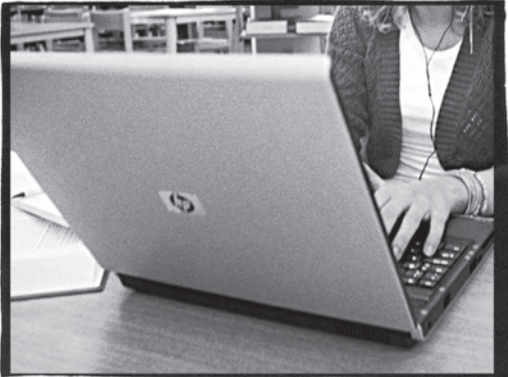
To learn from the best teacher, ask your partner to masturbate in front of you. They would, I hope, be the most knowledgeable about what really works for them, so if you just watch and take notes, you might get some pretty good ideas. Also, it's important to note that the handjob certainly doesn't have to be the conclusion to the evening (although it definitely could be); you can just consider it really hot foreplay. So go for it, and bring back second (or third) base.

*Kate Prengaman is a sex columnist for The Flat Hat. She remembers in 4th grade when first base was hand holding, second was kissing, third was kissing with tongue, and the home run was "doing IT." She misses those days ... sort of.*

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Bedding



Storage

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# BRIEFS

## Tired of selling your soul to the Bursar’s office every year?

Sell ads for The Flat Hat instead.

The commission is better, we swear.

(And we need a better way to fill up all this space.)

E-mail fhads@wm.edu for more information.

### Book sale

The Friends of the Library organization is holding their annual book sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 24 and 1 to 5 p.m. Sept. 25 in the Botetourt Gallery in Earl Gregg Swem Library. Hardcover books are \$4; paperbacks are \$1. Everything will be half price Sept 25.

trips and volunteering at Sentara Williamsburg Hospital will follow.

### CPK info

An information session for those wishing to volunteer with College Partnership for Kids will be held at 4 p.m. Sept. 9 in the Tidewater B room of the University Center.

### Project Phoenix

Training for Project Phoenix, a tutoring program, will be held Sept. 6 at 3:30 p.m. in Washington 201.

### W&M House

The second annual W&M House, an event that will involve building a home for a family in Williamsburg, is looking for people to help out. If interested in helping, contact Abbitt Woodall at 221-0225 (off campus) at least two weeks before you want to help. You need no construction expertise. The group will teach you as you go along and will make sure to keep you out of danger.

### Volunteer fair

A volunteer fair will be held 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 7 in the University Center Lobby. Over 30 local agencies will be represented, and interest sessions on international service

## CLASSIFIEDS

### HEALTH

Headache? Neck pain?  
Back pain? Sports injury?  
Stress?

We can help. Visit [www.performancechiropractic.com](http://www.performancechiropractic.com) to see how **CHIROPRACTIC, ACUPUNCTURE, and MASSAGE** help you be your best. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call Performance Chiropractic at 229-4161. (ad authorized by Dr. Daniel Shaye, chiropractic physician, W&M 1990)

Classifieds are \$.25/wd./issue and must be pre-paid by check. Call 757-221-3283 or e-mail fhads@wm.edu for more info.

## Student Activities Fee Budget Distribution Workshop

The following organizations were approved for funding from Student Activities Fees for 2005-2006. If the president or treasurer of your organization has not attended a workshop to pick up your budget this will be the last one. Funds will not be available until the proper forms have been processed to activate your account.



This workshop will be held in the Campus Center Little Theatre at 3:30 p.m.  
Tues, Sept 6



7th Grade	Classical Studies	Korean American Student Association	
Accidentals	Cleftomaniacs	Lambda Alliance	Student Assembly
Advocacy in the Fight Against Aids (AFYA)	Composer's League	MBA Association	Student Care Team
African American Male Coalition	Crochet for Kids Club	Meridian Coffee House	Student Information Network
African American Theatre Club	Double Take	Metal Club	Student Partnership for International Medical Aid
African Cultural Society	Essence, Women of Color	Middle Eastern Cultural Association	Student Red Cross
Alpha Kappa Psi	Every Two Minutes	Mock Trial Team	Student Virginia Education Association
Alpha Phi Omega	Feminist Majority Leadership	MUSE	Students for Life
Amnesty	FASA	Muslim Student Association	Students of the Caribbean
Anime Society	Film Society	NAACP	Swing Dance Club
Anthropolgy Club	Graduate Council	One In Four	Transfer Student Ambassador
Asian Student Council	Graduate Education Association	Optimal Healthy Environments	Tribal Dancers
Black Student Organization	Graduate Public Policy Association	Pep Band	UCAB
Botany Club	Graduate Student Association	Phi Sigma Pi, Gamma Psi Chapter	Undergrad Council
Bullet Proof	Green & Gold Christmas	Photography Club	Up Til Dawn
Campus Girl Scouts	HALVA	Psychology Club	Vietnamese Student Association
Catholic Campus Ministry	Hellenic Student Association	Reality in Israel & Palestine	VIMS GSA
Chicas Latinas Unidas	Hillel	Revolutionary War Reenacting College Co	Virgina Society for the Preservaton of Antiquites
Chinese Student & Scholar Association	Hindu Student Association	Roots & Shoots	Voices for Planned Parenthood
Chinese Student Organization	Hispanic Cultural Organization	Russian Club	W & M CANS
Circle K	Honor Council	Science Fiction & Fantasy Club	W&M Progressive
Class - Senior 2006	Hunger Task Force	SEAC	W&M TV
Class - Junior 2007	International Relations Club	SOAP	W&M UNICEF
Class - Sophomore 2008	Intonations	Sociology Club	Wilma & Mary
Class -Freshmen 2009	Japanese Cultural Association	South Asian Student Association	Windwalkers



Please e-mail: [ayhaml@wm.edu](mailto:ayhaml@wm.edu) and let us know which workshop you plan to attend and which organization you represent.





# REVIEWS



He can only get angry  
if he sees you move.  
See GOSSIP, page 12.

## FILM BRINGS BELOVED ‘GRIMM’ CLASSICS ALIVE

By BETH SUTHERLAND  
THE FLAT HAT

Sometimes, in the usually droll and formulaic world of mainstream film, a movie takes you on a rollercoaster ride to the dark side of the moon. It is both a dreamscape and a nightmare, a terrifying cinematic acid trip. Every character’s a caricature, and the madness is so dizzying that it’s hard to draw a breath. Nothing makes sense; everything makes sense. Torture, decapitation and even true love are made to seem hilarious. This doesn’t necessarily make it a good film. It’s just ... weird.

Terry Gilliam’s “The Brothers Grimm” is just such a movie. It may be what would result from a mating of Tim Burton’s “Sleepy Hollow” with Baz Luhrmann’s “Moulin Rouge!” It’s macabre, but with a tenacious insanity. The music is phenomenal — both frenetic and dark, lumbering through the movie like a crippled ogre. It is a dark comedy, a film with heroes that move in the spirit of “Van Helsing.” A half-eaten corpse, a fleshy witch, a bloodthirsty wolf, an erotically-inclined toad, an evil gingerbread man and (save us all) several psychotic Frenchmen haunt the flick. At the center of the action, of course, are the Brothers Grimm — two con-artists who earn a living by “vanquishing” the nonexistent monsters that plague the superstitious minds of 18th-century German peasants. Historical accuracy is not the aim here.

Though usually more serious actors, Heath Ledger and Matt Damon perform their parts well. The script is not overly clever, and the action moves too quickly to allow for any real character development, but it’s entertaining in a disturbed sort of way.

Occasionally, though, when it seems to have gone off the deep end, the viewer finds her mind wandering rather than attempting to keep up with the endless succession of disquieting, quirky quips. Ledger and Damon have a kind of Abbot and Costello act going throughout the movie. Ledger is Jacob, the naïve, oblivious crackpot, while Damon plays Will, who is a savvy, pragmatic womanizer. One cannot help but think that they should have switched roles; the movie may have run better had they done so. But the film makes no pretense at fluidity.

Though their comedy is derived mainly from each other’s blundering, the characters do have at least a little bit of depth and emotion. The movie opens with a scene from their childhood. Will, his mother and his ailing sister sit in a tiny cottage, waiting for Jacob to come back. He has gone to sell the cow so there will be money to pay for a doctor for the little girl. But because he’s a starry-eyed dreamer more willing to believe in the magic of what is possible rather than the actuality of what is, Jacob trades the cow for some “magic beans.” This echo of “Jack the Giant Killer” fails to deliver the generic happy ending. The sister dies and Will never lets Jacob forget that his stupidity was the cause. It is tempting to see irony in the fact that the two go on to become con-artists (like the bean man), as if they can’t escape the trade that brought about their own personal tragedy.

The tale takes place in French-occupied Germany, and all stereotypes are milked dry. The French are decadent pigs who would sooner shoot than touch a filthy German. The Germans are lusty, superstitious people who skin rabbits with their bare hands and make blood sausage for their guests. The most erratic, upsetting

and hilarious character by far is Cavaldi — a sadistic French officer who is “a master in the torturing arts.” Played by the intense but comical Peter Stormare (“Chocolat”), he constantly shouts random lines and bursts across the frame (usually wielding some unseemly instrument of pain). Of course it would be a sin not to mention Jonathan Pryce (“Something Wicked This Way Comes,” “Evita,” “Pirates of the Caribbean”), who plays Cavaldi’s commanding officer. A mini-Napoleon (no pun intended). These French oppressors capture the conniving brothers and force them to confront an actual threat. There is an evil presence in the forest of Marbaden, and little girls are constantly disappearing. Little Red Riding Hood, Gretel; they’re all gone. Only by undertaking this quest do the two find themselves and acquire a deeper understanding of the infinite abilities of the imagination.

Whether intentional or not, this film can work on a different level. Without this depth, it would be pointless. Literary allusion must be an inevitable component to a movie about the Grimm brothers. There are obvious ones, such as “The Frog Prince” and “The Gingerbread Man,” and various catchphrases such as “who’s the fairest,” “happily ever after,” “mirror, mirror,” “my, what big ...” etc, keep the spirit of the fairy tale alive. Also, factuality may be stretched a bit, and some of Charles Perrault’s and Hans Christian Anderson’s fairy tales may have been borrowed as well. Whoopsie. Also, the mystery is in the forest — it is there where reality blurs and one is left with his naked self. Only by crossing this threshold and facing the horrors within can the characters triumph. The only way to fix Marbaden is to call on the Brothers Grimm.



COURTESY PHOTO • DIMENSION FILMS

Heath Ledger (LEFT) and Matt Damon play Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm respectively in director Terry Gilliam’s take on the famous childrens’ tales.

## Truly high art provides viewer with myriad visual, auditory delights

### CRITICAL CONDITION



Tristan  
Lejeune

As you read this, I may well be tripping my ass off. My pupils will be dilated beyond the level of any mere sexual arousal, my loud laugh will reverberate off the patented pattern of Old Campus bricks and my tummy will probably hurt. Or I could be in jail. We here in The Flat Hat Reviews section are all about sharing recommendations, and I don’t recommend drugs to strangers. If, however, as responsible, well-informed, newly-minted adults you choose to harm your body in ways that make it feel really fun for a few hours, I have some artistic-minded recommendations for you. Welcome to Entertainment for Druggies.

To begin, alcohol is not a drug in the aesthetic sense of the word. I know, I know, you got wasted to the new Audioslave and rocked out hardcore. Watching movies drunk can be fun, reading books drunk can be fun — but the difference adds nothing and depressants by definition slow your ability to take in and process things. You’re on your own with the

uppers too; who does coke and sits through a movie? Hallucinogens, however, particularly the common and mild reefer, can reveal visual motifs, editing masterstrokes or pure majesty in poetry or prose invisible to the unaided, non-bloodshot eye. The medium of film in particular goes really well with pot, and you can quote me on that. But each in their turn.

General rule for music: if you like it straight, you’ll love it stoned. Kelly Clarkson, Tool, Squirrel Nut Zippers, whatever — it’s like sprinkling green sugar on your favorite brownie of sound. I am living proof that meeting Mary Jane does not turn one into a reggae or trip-hop fan; Bob Marley’s death was in vain if you ask me. Lean toward the transcendent, whatever that means for you (for me it means Jeff Buckley, “The Blue Album” and the best of fast-paced pop), and you’ll be good.

The rule for literature is just as simple — read it sober first. Returning to favorite Christina Rossetti sonnet or passage from

“Franny & Zooey” with a higher THC content than the last time you saw it is an experience worth about, oh, I don’t know, 50 an eighth if it’s decent shit. For an initial reading though, good writers deserve clear heads. The first time I read “The Corrections” I felt like I was high anyway. Franzen’s language is such a rush. Now I get the world’s most sincere and snobby munchies to descriptions of Denise Lambert’s cooking. Hell, you could even pick up a Flat Hat if the mood strikes you.

Movies have a more complicated standard. Think of it like this: bad movies get worse, good movies get better and certain good movies suddenly blow your mind and swallow. It was only stumbling upon “Spider-Man” late one night on HBO that I fully realized just what a shoddy mix of lousy biology, worse psychology and simply awful dialogue it was. The pieces of cinema which most benefit from an altered state generally fall into two categories, the Funny and the Trippy.

Nine out of every 10 potheads enjoy lame

comedies when they smoke. “Super Troopers” ain’t super at all, and “Half Baked” was at best a quarter conceived. You can’t go wrong with a classic like “Airplane!” and I have personally witnessed “Team America” reduce stoners (one aged 16, another 58) to tears with laughter. But neither the ZAZ, the Parker/Stone oeuvres, nor indeed those of any other troupe, are quite as in tune to one’s buzzed sensibilities as peak-performance Cohen brothers. “Raising Arizona” may be the funniest movie to watch shroomin’ or smokin’ ever and, unlike its roach-puffing protagonist, “The Big Lebowski” is no slouch either.

The Trippy school is more for those who like a little sensuous workout with their poisons, and “Run Lola Run” has the power to keep your heart rate up for 80 motionless minutes, if you’re so inclined. Anyone who watches “Requiem for a Dream” or “Spun” while high is deeply missing the point. For an

## Indie idol, hip-hop hero strike back

### ♦ *Death Cab deliver muddled ‘Plans’*

By CONOR MCKAY  
THE FLAT HAT

For every genre of music there comes a point when the bubble pops. It happened to punk when the underground sold out, leading to some sort of parallel universe wherein Blink-182 was categorized right alongside The Clash, The Ramones, The Sex Pistols and Iggy. Iggy, happened to genius decided for 50 cents — part is, we Rich or Die six times platinum. S. Thompson can go up on a Vegas and look the right kind almost see the high-water mark — the place where the wave finally broke and rolled back.” Well, that wave is cresting again, and this time for the world of emo.



COURTESY • ATLANTIC

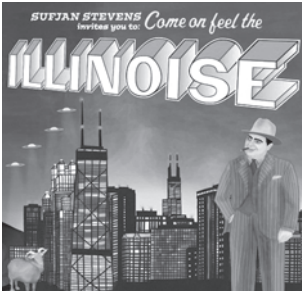
for chrissake. It rap when some to charge \$20 and the funny bought it: “Get Tryin’” went num. As Hunter wrote, “You steep hill in Las West, and with of eyes you can

See ‘PLANS’ ♦ page 12

### ♦ *‘Illinois’ states Stevens’ talent*

By STEVE WEISBERG  
THE FLAT HAT

If I had to describe songwriter Sufjan Stevens’ most recent release, “Illinois,” using just one word, I would choose poetic. From the flowing, lilting melodies to the orchestral harmonies, breaks and backgrounds, “Illinois” paints a portrait of the landscape of time, and places of Illinois. ing slurs of their way into retelling of the 21st state Sufjan’s magihovers in the sphere while from banjos, and flutes saturate the sound waves. This lush production, replete with horn sections, feeds into the grandeur of the album. Circular chord progressions, such as those in “Chicago” and “Tallest Man, the Broadest Shoulders: The Great Frontier/ Come to Me Only,”



COURTESY • ASTHMATIC KITTY

events, people of the state Echoic, drawl-rhythm weave the subtle the history of of the Union. cal, airy voice tonal aeroeverything cellos, guitars

See ‘ILLINOIS’ ♦ page 12

### ♦ *‘Late’ avoids sophomore slump*

By NATHAN HIPPLE  
THE FLAT HAT

Kanye West began his rise to stardom by producing a number of tracks on Jay-Z’s classic album “The Blueprint.” More recently, West is responsible for bringing rapper Common and crooner John Legend to the mainstream market on his record label Getting Out Our Dreams (GOOD).

When West first album Dropout,” the were through met every last a phenomenal expectations higher for his release “Late Luckily for



COURTESY • ROC-A-FELLA

dropped his “The College expectations the roof, and he one. After such debut album, were even sophomore Registration.”

Kanye West fans, he does not disappoint. While “Late Registration” does not blow listeners away in the same way “College Dropout” did, it shows incredible depth both from a production standpoint and lyrically that his debut effort did not.

See ‘LATE’ ♦ page 12





**HIGH NOTES**  
*Elevator*  
— **Hot Hot Heat**

Hot Hot Heat follows up 2002’s messy, unscrupulously catchy “Make Up The Breakdown” with a record full of 14 equally head-bopping, toe-tapping tracks. More polished than “Breakdown” (if a little less inspired), songs like “Goodnight, Goodnight” don’t miss a single frantic beat.

— *compiled by kyle meikle*

**BILLBOARD TOP 10 SINGLES**

1. *We Belong Together* — **Mariah Carey**
2. *Don't Cha* — **The Pussycat Dolls** featuring **Busta Rhymes**
3. *Pon De Replay* — **Rihanna**
4. *Shake It Off* — **Mariah Carey**
5. *Let Me Hold You* — **Bow Wow** featuring **Omarion**
6. *Lose Control* — **Missy Elliot** featuring **Ciara** and **Fat Man Scoop**
7. *You And Me* — **Lifehouse**
8. *Behind These Hazel Eyes* — **Kelly Clarkson**
9. *Like You* — **Bow Wow** featuring **Ciara**
10. *Listen To Your Heart* — **D.H.T.**

**HIGH**

FROM PAGE 11

unforgettable look-they-do-drugs-too experience go to “The Rules of Attraction.” If its college-aged, drug-fueled nihilistic hedonism doesn’t make it the best stoned viewing around, then its amazing soundtrack and gasp-inducing visual and auditory parlor tricks will. Don’t even bother watching it straight.

Whether or not you choose to put illicit substances in your

mouth, nose or vein is nobody’s business but your own, but I for one would feel remiss if I couldn’t give entertainment advice for as many mental and physical conditions as possible. Dark and stormy night? I know some great scary books. Feeling depressed? I have CDs that will help you through. On your 10th bong rip? Hell yeah man, I’ve got something you gotta see ...

*Tristan Lejeune is a Flat Hat Staff Writer. We are not responsible for his extracurricular activities, nor do we know where he lives.*

**‘PLANS’**

FROM PAGE 11

Ostensibly, this is a review of the new Death Cab for Cutie album, “Plans.” I will get to that in more detail shortly, but first I must set up the situation for you: eight years ago, a baby-faced, naive boy from the small town of Bellingham, WA put out a solo demo tape under the name Death Cab for Cutie. Word got around, so he put together a full-time band. Their first major release, “Something About Airplanes,”

came out in 1999 to receive critical acclaim, and rightfully so. Their dreamy, airy, melodic arrangements offer more than your average pop song, and Ben Gibbard’s pleasantly neurotic lyrics and vocal twinge give the listener something to which they can relate. With their second and third releases, Death Cab became a little more musically adventurous and certainly became a tighter unit as a result of more experience playing together. They became confident, which lead to beauties such as “Lowell, MA” from 2000’s “We Have the Facts and We’re Voting Yes” and “Movie Script Ending” from 2001’s “Photo Album.” That was their stride, and those albums are worth owning. Then something happened. Case in point: 2003’s “Transatlanticism.”

“Transatlanticism” garnered both critical acclaim and high

record sales, but this time lacking the quality to back it up. Basically, “Transatlanticism” capitalized on the explosion of emo, moving away from their indie fan base and comparisons to the genre’s greats like Built to Spill, toward the low-carb music society of Yellowcard and New Found Glory. Diehard fans died hard and the band’s base grew. Popularity spurred Gibbard’s solo spirit to create a spinoff.

Yes, “Plans” marks Death Cab’s first major label release, and like other sellouts before them they watered down their music to become as inoffensive as possible. Emo, no longer synonymous with the underground, has surfaced like a dead fish. Henceforth, we are delivered “Hot Fuss,” led by the cringeful “Mr. Brightside.” It seems the music industry actually wants its listeners to slit their wrists. Funny thing is,

it won’t be the pop culture fucks listening to this crap who do it, but we music lovers who cover our ears and say a prayer. Lord, they know not what they do.

“Plans” is certainly not the worst album of the year. That said, it is a microcosm of emo from a band whose descent into the genre mimics every other band these days. The once melodic tunes for which Death Cab was known so well are lost, their material now comparable to the likes of Dashboard Confessional and Unwritten Law. Songs such as the emotionless “I Will Follow You Into the Dark” doesn’t exhibit much of anything to note. So if you’re looking for a good Death Cab album, steer clear, a dead emo album, shy away. However, if you loved Coldplay’s “X&Y” and generally like to forget that you’re listening to anything, this one’s for you.

**‘ILLINOIS’**

FROM PAGE 11

give us a winding tour of Illinois, and beyond, as Stevens sings in “Chicago.”

Illinois is the second state covered by Stevens in his magnanimous 50 states project. Stevens’ goal is to produce one album for all 50 states. If his efforts in future endeavors match “Illinois” and his earlier work, “Greetings from Michigan: The Great Lakes State,” the potential for musical growth and development is immeasurable. One criticism of the project thus far is the noticeable similarities between the first two states’ albums. Perhaps this is because these two are relatively similar Midwest states, or possibly due to Stevens’ familiarity with Illinois and Michigan in particular. Stevens, being from Michigan, spent much of his childhood in both locations.

In scope, the album includes a surprisingly detailed look at the Prairie State. Covering relatively small towns such as Metropolis and Jacksonville as well as larger ones like Decatur and Chicago, Sufjan Stevens highlights Illinois’ uniqueness. Poet Carl Sandburg, serial killer John Wayne Gacy, Jr., former Senator Stephen A. Douglas and former President Abraham Lincoln all make up just a part of Stevens’

overview of Illinois. The Dewey Day Parade, the larger-than-life statue of Superman from Metropolis, the Palisades, the Chicago fire and the Black Hawk War are also incorporated.

Despite the significant amount of attention directed at the state history of Illinois, Stevens allows his Christian beliefs to shine through. His touching, even merciful portrayal of serial killer John Wayne Gacy, Jr. in the song of same name and the reiterated refrain of “Chicago” — “all things go to the creator” — demonstrate a distinctively Christian outlook. In an interview with Pitchfork Media, Stevens admits the prejudice against Christian rock, but adds that “the criticism is often just against the aesthetic, the artistry, the lack of substance in a lot of Christian pop music.” Stevens’ more substantial lyrics and instrumentation defy this trend.

In fact, musically, “Illinois” is Stevens’ most complex album to date. The deeply-layered harmonies and orchestration decorate the rich, full production. One of his more intricate songs, “The Black Hawk War,” features twittering flutes, sharp snare drums, melodic trumpets and backing vocals to create an immense landscape of war, death and the natural world.

Stevens’ composition, “Illinois,” is a powerful piece of epic poetry, written in the language of music.

**‘LATE’**

FROM PAGE 11

West’s first single off the album, “Diamonds from Sierra Leone,” served to raise the hype for the album to astronomical levels. What may strike fans as odd (and slightly alarming) is the fact that this single — arguably the best of his career to date — is only included on the album as a bonus track. Even stranger is the fact that the remix of this song is included in the normal track listing.

Aside from those minor annoyances, the album itself is incredibly strong for a sophomore release, especially when it is surrounded by so much expectation to duplicate the success of “Dropout.” West has matured as an MC and a poet on this album, all the while maintaining his love of

intricate wordplay. He rhymes about everything from your typical rap fare to American political issues. For someone whose lyrics were often immature and playful on his debut, West shows incredible depth here.

Yet another concern with a sophomore release is the beats. West is, after all, a producer, so fans have nothing to fear here. The beats are not as instantly accessible as those on “The College Dropout,” but they show a depth that reveals itself on multiple listens. This is due, in part, to live instrumentation and contributions from pop/rock producer Jon Brion: a surprising combination, but one that works quite well. The samples used on this album contribute to the overall feel, ranging from “My Funny Valentine” by Etta James to “I Got A Woman” by Ray Charles to the title track from

the movie “Diamonds are Forever.”

“Late Registration” features a more mainstream collage of guest spots than West’s debut effort. These appearances tend to contribute to the album’s coherency rather than take away from it (as is often the case with guest spots). Moreover, how many albums can brag they contain both rapper Cam’Ron and Adam Levine, lead singer of Maroon 5?

Pointless skits and some awkward mixing aside, “Late Registration” is an album that lives up to the hype. Featuring killer guest spots from Jay-Z and Common, top-notch production and clever rhyming, this album meets all expectations head-on. Strong tracks such as “Touch the Sky,” “Roses” and “Diamonds from Sierra Leone” blaze a trail, making “Late Registration” a necessity for anyone who’s ever enjoyed rap music.

**HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP**

**Spears fights 13 year-old**

Pregnant pop star Britney Spears practiced her white trash mothering skills this week by making someone nearly half her age cry. The “Oops” celeb, concerned that little sis Jamie Lynn was fighting with “Zoey 101” co-star Alexa Nikolas, apparently sat down Nikolas and gave her a stern “talking to” about the conflict. Although Brit claims to have been civil about the ordeal, witnesses claim that Nikolas was left sobbing and totally upset, much like Britney’s former fans.



**Crowe angry**

Very angry movie star Russell Crowe recently chose celebrities with a cause as his latest target. The “Beautiful Mind” star downed cause celebs like U2 frontman Bono when he commented on the tendency of big name activists to make themselves into public martyrs; Crowe claims that he frequently (and very privately) donates to a number of charities. If you disagree with him, he will donate a phone to your head on next week’s ep of “Russel Crowe Fightin’ Around the World.”



**Carey spotted with Murphy**

All right, so either Eddie Murphy is one hell of a charmer, or Mariah Carey (of former nervous breakdowns and current chart-topping fame) reeally digs “Shrek.” The not-so-unlikely-when-you-think-about-it duo were seen out and about at a Miami nightclub recently, where Carey was attending the MTV Video Music Awards. Murphy is currently estranged from wife Nicole, who filed for divorce from the “Dr. Dolittle” actor earlier this month.



**Downey, Jr. weds Levin**

“Wonder Boys” star Robert Downey, Jr. stayed out of rehab long enough to get married in New York last weekend to girlfriend Susan Levin. Downey, Jr. and Levin, a film producer, exchanged vows in Long Island town Amagansett Aug. 27 in front of a small crowd of friends and family. Keanu Reeves, Billy Joel and Sting were among those who attended; no word on whether Joel and the groom shared a celebratory drink or not.

— *compiled by kyle meikle*

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The Rec Center pool undergoes ‘renovations.’ See SWIMMING, page 15.

# Field hockey squelches Ball State

By JOE KANE  
THE FLAT HAT

This past weekend women’s field hockey hosted Ball State University and Pennsylvania State University at home to begin their regular season of play. The Tribe disposed of Ball State with relative ease Saturday 4-1 but lost a hard-fought endurance contest against Penn State Sunday 0-1.

### Look ahead

**Who:** University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
**Date:** Tomorrow  
**Where:** Busch Field  
**Time:** 1 p.m.



The Tribe has not lost a home-opener since 1997 and was set on extending that streak against Ball State. Two goals early on, the first by sophomore defender Laura Kastelic and the second by junior forward Gina Cimarelli, gave the Tribe a comfortable lead and set the tone for the rest of the game. Solid defense held the visiting Cardinals to only one goal, earned after 59 minutes of play, and the persistent offense out-shot them 23-2. Leading the way was sophomore midfielder Jessica Kacerek, who had two assists and scored the first goal of her career.

“We worked extremely hard this past spring and preseason, and our hard work was definitely displayed in this weekend’s play,” Kacerek said.

When the team laced up their cleats for the second game against Penn State, they had no idea exactly how much hard work would have to be displayed. In the sunny and humid weather, the Tribe entered the game with an air of confidence from the previous day, ready to square off against the Nittany Lions. As soon as the game started, however, both sides were locked even. Every time the Lions pounced, the Tribe was ready to strike back.



ALLIE VEINOTE • THE FLAT HAT  
The Tribe women’s field hockey team faces off against their opponents, Ball State, whom they handily defeated last Saturday.

# Volleyball forces Pirates to walk plank

By ANDREW PIKE  
THE FLAT HAT

The women’s volleyball team captured its first victory of the season in a five-game thriller against the East Carolina University Pirates. The teams traded games as the Tribe took the first (30-21) and third (30-25), and ECU took the second (27-30) and fourth (28-30). The Tribe used a 5-2 run in the fifth game to win the game 15-12 and to clinch the match.

### Look ahead

**Who:** Fresno State  
**Date:** Today  
**Where:** San Francisco, Ca.  
**Time:** 1 p.m.



“Long matches like that are so much more of a reward to win,” junior setter Natalie King said. “At the time I wouldn’t say that I was tired because of all the adrenaline, but it definitely took a toll on my body once the excitement died down.” King’s adrenaline produced 52 assists, sparking the Tribe’s offense. The team combined for 70 kills, 16 of which came from senior right side hitter Kate Woffindin.

Three other players — senior outside hitter Mandy Mayo, senior middle blocker and co-captain Carly Huffman and junior outside hitter Sarah Long — recorded double figures in kills. W&M also recorded 14.5 total team blocks compared to ECU’s four.

“Our number of blocks in particular was a strong point,” King said. “Passing wasn’t as good this match as it was with Winthrop, but we performed better in almost every other statistical category.”

The Tribe exhibited strong offensive production against ECU a day after committing errors against the Winthrop University Eagles in a three-game loss. The Tribe’s hitting percentage was .062 in the Winthrop match.

“We have some work to do in cutting down errors,” Head Coach

Debbie King said. “Nothing’s ever perfect. We learned a lot from [Winthrop].”

Nevertheless, W&M is upbeat about the upcoming season. Predicted to finish fifth in the Colonial Athletic Association, the Tribe has set their sights a little higher.

“We’re very optimistic and excited. We think we have a legitimate chance at the championship,” Hill said.

Experience is the driving force behind the optimism and enthusiasm for this season. The Tribe has 13 returning players, seven of whom are seniors.

This year marks the largest senior class in Tribe volleyball history. The last time Coach Hill had close to that many seniors was 2001, when six seniors spearheaded the team to its eighth CAA championship and first NCAA appearance.

“With so many returning players, team cohesiveness and chemistry was never an issue,” Coach King said. “We all get along great and are familiar with others’ styles of play, strengths and weaknesses.”

The Tribe returns one of the CAA’s top defensive players in senior libero/defensive specialist Erin Simmons, who set a single-season school record of 423 digs last year. Offensively, W&M has three senior middle blockers returning: Megan Eisenman, Caitlin Geraghty and Huffman. Eisenman led the team in virtually every offensive category and was named second team all-CAA as well as being an all-state selection last season. Geraghty and Huffman were the 2004 team’s most formidable blockers as they finished first and third in the CAA in blocks per game average.

“We have a mature team and a lot of ability. We’re really looking forward to the season,” Hill said.

The Tribe continues its season as it travels to San Francisco to compete in the Coca Cola/C2 Golden Gate Classic today and tomorrow.



IRENE ROJAS • THE FLAT HAT  
A Tribe player defends the goal against an attacking Blue Devil.

# Tribe soccer holds Devils to 1-1 tie

By MARK JOHNSON  
THE FLAT HAT

The women’s soccer team held out for a 1-1 tie in a stretched-out battle against Duke University. Both goals were scored in the first half, with Duke’s Caroyln Riggs scoring the first goal. A deflected shot by sophomore midfielder Tiffany Chudoba was put back in by sophomore midfielder Mary Mackenzie Grier soon after Duke’s initial goal to tie the score. The first half was largely defensive for the Tribe; the team took only two shots compared to the Blue Devils’ 11.

### Look ahead

**Who:** Clemson University  
**Date:** Today  
**Where:** Albert-Daly Field  
**Time:** 7 p.m.



Duke was ranked eighth coming into the game. Despite this intimidating statistic, the Tribe did not give in easily, feeling that they could beat the odds.

“We were being bombarded,” senior goalkeeper Kathleen Belk said. The high shot count by the Blue Devils put a lot of pressure on the

defense and goalkeeper throughout the game. It also urged the offense to put the Tribe on the scoreboard.

“I was ... very pleased that we came back and scored after Duke scored first, because it’s easy ... to put your head down after that,” senior captain and midfielder Lydia Sturgis said.

At the start of the second half, the Tribe held a defensive formation, ready for more attacks from Duke, but the Tribe dominated the second half with four shots on goal compared to Duke’s one. Though a little shaky on the transitions, the Tribe’s offensive prowess kicked in, and they deftly outmaneuvered the Blue Devil defense on many occasions. Though the Tribe had more attempts on goal in the second half, luck wasn’t with them. Fortunately, the Blue Devils were having just as much trouble capitalizing on opportunities.

Head Coach John Daly made frequent use of the depth of his team on the bench. Numerous substitutions allowed the Tribe to remain refreshed and fast on the field and to keep up the pressure on Duke. The Blue Devils, however, were adept at maintaining their own pace through the game. Long passes and a wide spread across the field allowed them to cope with the Tribe’s constant pressure.

As the second half began to wane, the Tribe’s field play showed signs of wear. A general lack of aggression and a lag in the time taken to return to position by the Tribe allowed Duke to gain some control over the field. The team continued to fight, and though they returned to a defensive formation, they pushed hard on the occasional offensive opportunity or breakaway.

At the end of the second half, with the scoreboard still reading 1-1, a group of young kids cheering the Tribe could be heard over the otherwise scattered crowd.

“It’s always nice to have crowd support, especially when the crowd is yelling and behind you, but we were able to focus and motivate ourselves, which, I think, is a testament to our team’s character,” Sturgis said.

As an out-of-conference game, the overtime format consisted of two 10-minute periods that passed without a change in result, leaving the score at 1-1 for the final tally.

# French press too eager to burn Armstrong in silly witch hunt

### FROM THE SIDELINES



Carl Siegmund

Forget the fact that he won seven straight Tour de France races. Forget the fact that he defeated cancer. Lance Armstrong is now a part of the steroids witch hunt. This is not the first accusation either. French cycling officials took his urine samples during previous races, and his assistants claimed that they disposed of his used syringes. Armstrong, however, passed every single drug test he has ever taken. So why does the media continue to go after him?

The most recent scandal was reported in the French tabloid paper, L’Equipe. They claim that a test of a 1999 B sample of Armstrong’s urine revealed evidence of the drug EPO (erythropoietin). EPO raises the number of red blood cells in the body, helping out with endurance during races. B samples are the second of two samples used in performance enhancers. The B samples had an ID number that L’Equipe claims can be matched to Armstrong. The report goes on to state that the drug showed up in his blood six times during the

1999 Tour de France, Armstrong’s first win in a streak of seven.

In light of L’Equipe’s contention, Armstrong’s firm stance that he has never taken performance-enhancing drugs looks weak. But can we convict the man for six year-old frozen samples, and how do we know they were his?

Unfortunately, it seems that no French official wants to stand up for Armstrong. It doesn’t bode well for his reputation that the Tour de France’s director, Jean-Marie Leblanc, agreed with the newspaper report and remarked that it was very credible. It is also ominous when the French sports minister, Jean-Francois Lamour supports that opinion. Maybe the French are a tad bit upset that a native son hasn’t won in so long? Or is this just a scheme to sell more newspapers? Or both?

Quite frankly, it boils down to a few things. Armstrong has dominated the Tour for seven years. Unlike some athletes who dope, there was no suspicious spike in his performance over this

period of time. He kept winning with consistency on cycling’s biggest stage. He kept defeating competitors like Jan Ullrich year after year and, most important of all, he left everyone else in the dust in the Alps, the most difficult part of the race. Did a man who looks so heroic on the outside take performance-enhancing drugs to help him get to the plateau where he rests today?

USA Cycling has backed Armstrong, and they believe the report is trash.

“To me, this is an issue for the French people. They seemed very concerned about it, and frankly I don’t care what they think. And I don’t think Lance does either,” Steve Johnson of USA Cycling said. According to Johnson, there are certain rights and procedures to identify the people who are involved in using steroids. None were followed by L’Equipe, and officials from the French sports ministry and the Tour de France agreed with this statement. Yet they still believe Armstrong took steroids. Laboratory officials also conceded that

the tests were done for scientific purposes and had little legal value since only one sample was taken.

Every time the witch hunt comes, Armstrong defeats it. He has passed drug test after drug test and continues to maintain his innocence. Still, the new allegations are hard to brush aside. I am forcing myself to believe Armstrong mainly because I admire him for all the hardship he overcame and the consistent dominance he showed the world. When you like a guy, it is hard to criticize him. Then again, I forced myself to believe Baltimore Orioles’ first baseman Rafael Palmeiro, and now we all know he lied under oath before Congress about using steroids.

I will not be shocked if the rumor is true. I will be upset to know that a man who put so much of his time and energy into fighting cancer and helping others is a fake. For now, those who consider him a hero are holding out hope.

Carl Siegmund is the sports columnist for The Flat Hat. Say it ain’t so, Lance, say it ain’t so.



# Team Blitz Life Sports: Get Involved

— compiled by matthew a. nolan

Practice for Team Blitz is getting harder to schedule.

"Last fall it was easy," Bert Jacoby, '05, said. "Now we have less flexibility."

As more talent flocks to the hottest non-varsity running team on campus, this minor scheduling difficulty is good news for this student-organized cadre of runners; Team Blitz is getting bigger and faster.

When formed in the fall of 2002, Team Blitz only had two members: Jacoby and his roommate from freshman year, Ryan Stevens, '05. These two sophomores, both accomplished athletes in high school, separated from the W&M cross country team for injuries or other reasons but were dissatisfied.

"I just wanted to keep running," Stevens said.

Team Blitz was born, competing fall 2002 in the Tribe 8k Open and spring 2003 in the Anheuser-Busch Colonial Half Marathon.

According to the Team Blitz web site, the next two years were marked with irregularity in participation as the team grew. However, the fall of 2004 showed a boom in membership, a kind of "Golden Age" as several more members of the Tribe cross country and track teams left their respective programs and joined up.

"The NCAA isn't for everybody," Jacoby said. "We experience success in our own way."

There are now 11 names listed on the team's roster.

Team Blitz boasts an impressive record over the past three years. They swept the 2005 Shamrock Marathon held in Virginia Beach and have placed runners in the top 10 in various



COURTESY PHOTO + TEAM BLITZ

events, including the Colonial Half Marathon, which has become their benchmark race. Yet the real feature of the team isn't in its accolades. The team is made of close-knit friends focused on their practice with their sights on competition.

"A bunch of individual drives form a team ... we have a real commitment to compete," Stevens said. Even though Jacoby and Stevens are the founding members, they don't consider themselves captains.

"Everyone looks up to each other," Stevens said.

When asked what kind of experience is necessary for membership, Jacoby was generous.

"We welcome people to come and run with

us," he said, though he added that previous experience in distance running is a must.

The standard is under 18 minutes in the 5k and under five minutes in the mile, which is still slow for the team. According to the Team Blitz website, many teammates have mile times under 4:30 and 5k times inside 16 minutes. One would also need to keep up with the average 6:20 mile pace, up to 70 miles per week.

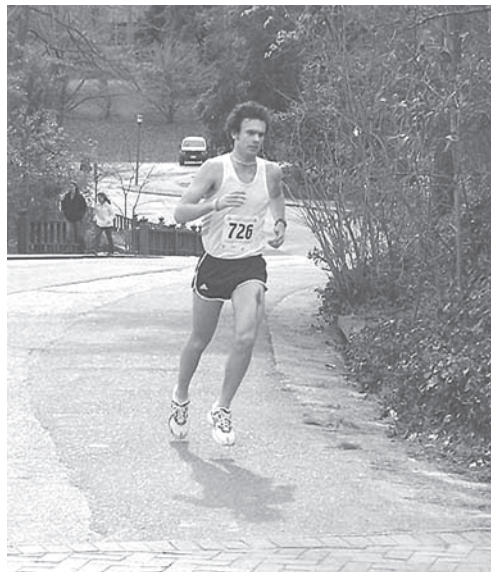
"We try not to scare people off, but we don't want anyone to get hurt," Jacoby said. "[We want] someone who's willing to come out every day."

When asked about the coming season, Stevens replied, "It's going to be amazing."



COURTESY PHOTO + TEAM BLITZ

All: Members of Team Blitz, a student-led competitive running team, race in the March 2005 Colonial Half Marathon. Even though Team Blitz is open to all students, participants must be prepared for a tough workout.



COURTESY PHOTO + TEAM BLITZ

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With the exception of cross-country skiing, running burns more calories per minute than any other form of cardiovascular exercise.

— RUNNING.ABOUT.COM



## Sports Calendar

Sept. 3 to Sept. 9

— compiled by louis malick

### Saturday

♦ Here's a double opportunity for Tribe pride. Women's field hockey takes on the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill on Busch Field at 1 p.m., and men's soccer plays St. Joseph's University on Albert-Daly Field at 7 p.m.

### Sunday

♦ A great Sunday afternoon activity would be watching women's soccer battle Dartmouth College on Albert-Daly Field at 3 p.m.

### Monday

♦ The sports calendar would not be complete without a reference to the much beloved badminton club. Practice is 9:15 to 10:45 p.m. in Adair Gymnasium.

### Tuesday

♦ Try something new; join the kendo club for their third practice of the year in Adair Gymnasium, 7 to 9 p.m.

### Wednesday

♦ If you prefer more refined athletic activities, check out the ballroom dance club. Practice is in the University Centers's Chesapeake A ballroom from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

### Thursday

♦ Beat the heat by taking advantage of the Recreation Center's pool ... if you can find it, that is. Thursday hours are 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

### Friday

♦ A true Tribe fan would finish off the week by watching women's volleyball play Elon University in W&M Hall at 2 p.m.

## Box Scores

Football  
Marshall University

L 24-36

Sept. 1

## Running: another look — by james damon

This asphalt feels pretty nice today; it must be new. Or maybe I never ran this way before. Hey, there's someone else jogging toward me, and she's cute. Why didn't she wave back? I know I waved at her and her adorable little black dog. Is there something wrong with me? Am I sweating too much again? I knew I should have put on more Aqua Velva deodorant before I left. I am going to stink like a freaking chicken nugget when I get back, and my roommate is going to be all like, "Where were you?" and I am going to be all like, "Shut up — I don't smell like a chicken nugget. You suck." What a jerk, but at least I look good — nice open stride, not too much of a bounce, straight back. Yeah, running doesn't get any better than this. Too bad I don't have some Chino's right now with the ... oh, what the heck is that dipping sauce called? It made my breath smell pretty rank last time, but that spiderweb is in my hair. I think I just ate a spider. Sweet Joan Benoit Samuelson. I can feel it creeping down my throat like a little razor blade. What if it climbs from my throat into my nasal cavity and then into my head and then lays little eggs and I have to go to the hospital to get my brain exterminated and I'll probably end up missing class and failing microeconomics? I hope my roommate gets a spider's nest in his head because then I would have the entire room to feng shui to my liking. Whoa, I almost tripped over that rock. Anyway, note to self: consider using spiders instead of scorpions for operation feng shui. Wait a minute, I have been running for awhile now, where the heck am I? Since when did the campus contain a pastel colored village full of jovial little people? No, I am not Dorothy, and I have no idea what a lollipop guild is. And I don't



care about the wicked witch. The only witch I care about is the Chipwich I've got waiting for me in the freezer, which my roommate filled with his stuff. He is taking up way too much space. He is so getting spidered. But, in the meantime, the traction on this yellow brick road is incredible. Is this Astro turf? How does my form look? Nice stride, not too much bounce, oh yeah, I think I've got a couple more miles in me. If only I had some Chino's ...

James Damon is a freshman at the College.

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Sept. 2, 3, 5, 7

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7 and 8:45 p.m.

Sept. 4, 6, 8, 9

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& Sun., Sept. 11 at 2:30 p.m.

General admission \$15. Seniors/Students \$12



# Swimming, diving team faces facility setbacks

*Part I of an investigative series into the world of W&M sports*

BY MADELINE WOLFERT  
THE FLAT HAT

When renovations on the Recreational Center began in May 2005, Recreational Sports decided to phase in the construction and keep part of the building open for students.

“Rec Sports made the commitment to offer every single activity that we offered last year,” Director Linda Knight said, although that meant that the project would take a little longer and cost a little more.

Through consultation with a group of W&M students, as well as the two architectural firms working on the project, Hastings and Chivetta, Architects, Inc. and Moseley Architects, Rec

Sports designed a new facility and a way to keep it open, despite construction, during the 2005 to 2006 academic year. Most current features are temporary; by August 2006, the Rec Center will reopen, brand-new, with everything improved and in its rightful place.

Until next August, however, the campus must adjust to a facility undergoing renovations.

“This year is going to be difficult for everybody. We’re down to half the building that we used to have,” Knight said.

The W&M swimming and diving team, which utilizes the Rec Center as its main facility, is just one group affected by the construction.

Much of the renovation design process progressed without the consultation or involve-

ment of a swimming coach, as much took place during a period of changes in the coaching staff.

“Some things are happening now that we weren’t expecting,” Head Coach McGee Moody said. Moody is now in his first season as director of swimming at W&M.

Two windows in the pool area are now bricked over, and the men’s locker room lost showers and space. Moody said he also recognized some ongoing issues, such as the lack of permanent seating and diving facilities at the Rec Center. For example, the W&M diving team must compete in Adair Gymnasium.

Two windows, which were not glass but still provided light to the pool area, were bricked over permanently in order to build the rest of the building; by Virginia standards, two walls need to be solid. However, the loss of these windows presents the positive opportunity to use the space differently. For example, a record board with team statistics can now replace the spot previously occupied by the windows. Representatives from Rec Sports also say they intend to replace light fixtures by next summer.

“With the positive attitude [the team members have] taken, it doesn’t matter what kind of environment they have; they’ll continue to be successful,” Moody said.

The men’s locker room situation is more difficult to remedy. Before the renovations began last year, Rec Sports presented the varsity swim team with two choices. They could knock a hole through the men’s locker room to create a walkway, losing several showers in the process, or they could direct the walkway through the pool deck. The team agreed to the former, preferring the use of only half the showers to a constant stream of people through the pool deck, creating distractions during practices and meets.

The renovation designs include a plan to restore the showers by next August and revamp the entire locker room by replacing the floor and its other facilities. Until then, however, the team must cope with fewer showers and less space. Although the men’s locker room situation is only temporary, Coach Moody considered it a significant inconvenience.

Since the locker room is open to all male W&M students, “there could be a situation where up to 45 [to] 50 people all need to use four showers,” Moody said.

Knight expressed doubt at the likelihood of incorporating diving facilities at the Rec Center, as the pool is not deep enough and would require complete renovation. Although certainly a future possibility that the Rec Center supports, the addition of permanent seating also presents a financial challenge.

As the coaching staff continue to work with Rec Sports on a daily basis, they appreciate the effort put forth to maintain the Rec Center facility for this year, recognizing that the pool could have been shut down completely. However, coach Moody voiced his concern that other conference teams employ upgraded resources, but he hopes to continue working with Rec Center to improve facilities.

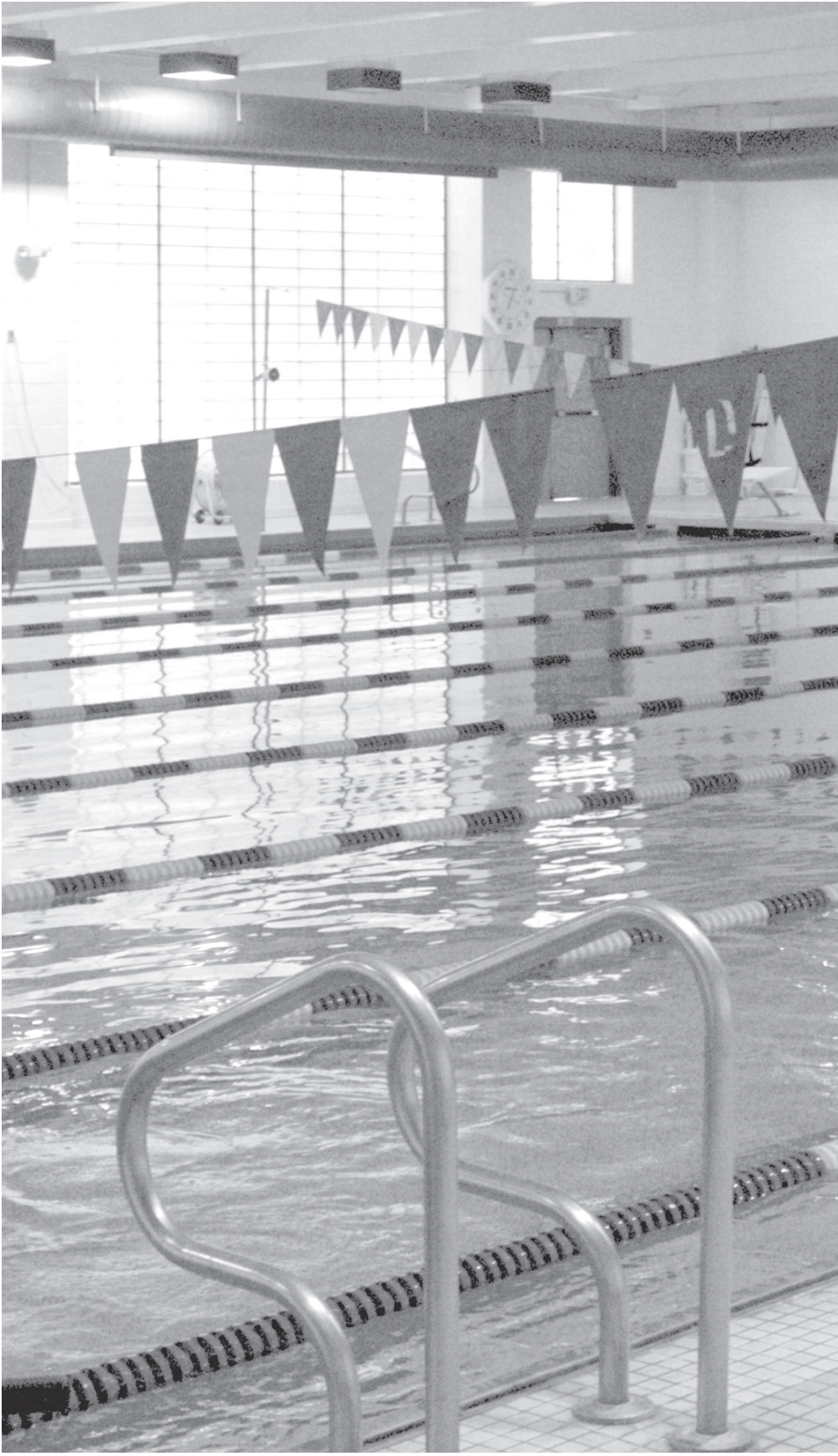
“Until that day comes,” Moody said, “we’re going to work with what we’ve got.”



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT  
*All: The swimming facilities have undergone an extensive downgrade because of the recent renovations for the Recreation Center.*



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT

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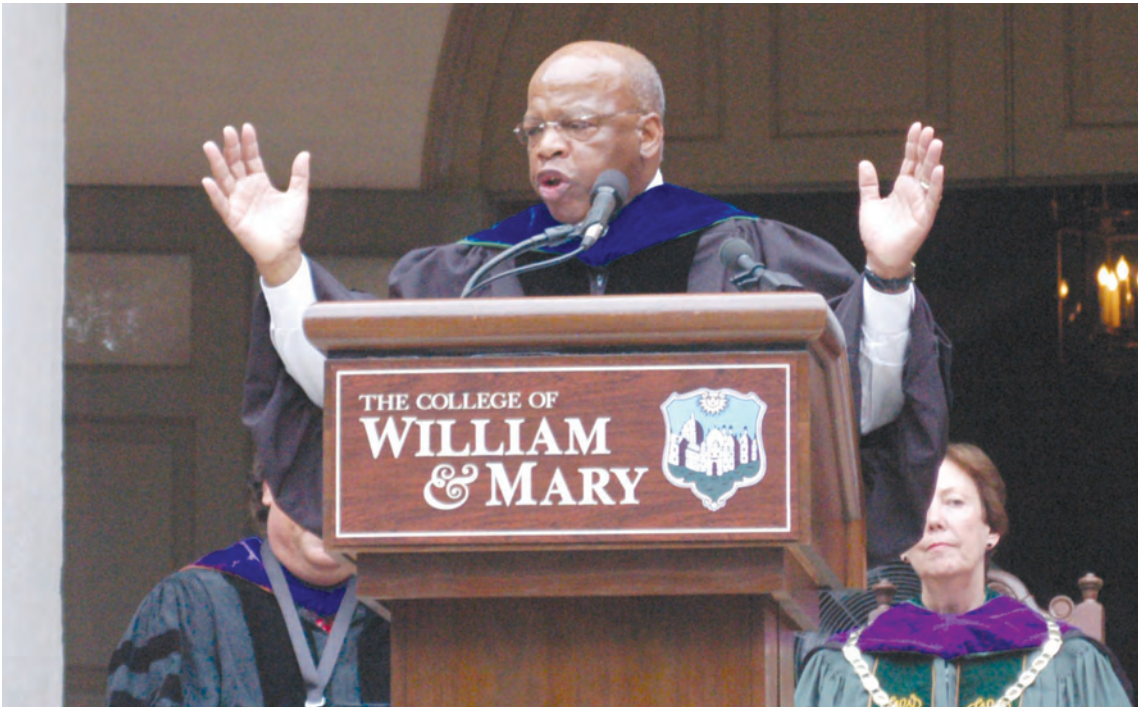
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# COMMENCEMENT AND CONVOCATION 2005



ALL PHOTOS BY ALLIE VEINOTE AND LAUREN BRYANT • THE FLAT HAT



## *President Sullivan, in his final Commencement at the College, asks class of 2005 to search within themselves*

By MICHAEL J. SCHOBEL  
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

Former College President Timothy J. Sullivan asked the graduates of the class of 2005 to search their souls' centers to discover who they truly are and urged them to have the bravery to live honorably in his Commencement address May 15. Sullivan was the keynote speaker at the ceremony, which was his final as president of the College.

Rector Susan A. Magill introduced Sullivan, saying that for the past several graduation ceremonies there had been a problem: Sullivan would upstage the keynote speaker.

"That's not gonna happen this year," Magill said. "[Sullivan] is an eloquent, most meaningful, most impressive speaker to address the class of 2005."

According to Magill, Sullivan is the first president of the College to give the keynote address at Commencement.

Sullivan opened his speech to the 1,274 undergraduates and 468 graduates by admitting that for the first time in his 13-year tenure he was nervous. He recalled how last year's speaker Jon Stewart, '84, had kidded him for being "crushingly dull."

But Sullivan proceeded, explaining that he told that story because he wants the graduates to be honest with themselves as he was honest with them.

"Who are you?" Sullivan asked the class. "Here you are, perched precariously on the brink of the brink of the great unknown. Some part of you must be exuberant, another must be apprehensive."

He told the graduates that they would not find the answer to this question by looking at their GPAs or their resumés. Instead, he said, they could only find it by looking within themselves and they could only improve through hard work.

"Take care that the values by which you choose to live have the potential to earn the sort of success that will give you comfort in that

oh-so-distant future when you have learned the hard way what matters and what does not."

### Student Speaker

Benji Kimble, '05, gave the graduate speech at the ceremony.

"You will not find a more enthusiastic member of the William and Mary community," Sullivan said of Kimble.

After his speech, Kimble got the graduates to chant "Timmy J" in honor of the departing president.

### Law Ceremony

Former U.S. Senator vice presidential candidate John Edwards spoke at the ceremony for graduates of the law school, which was held in the Sunken Gardens. Edwards is a graduate of the law school at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and a close friend of President Gene Nichol, the former dean of that institution.

Edwards opened his speech by describing the hopes and fears he had on graduation from law school. For him, the primary concern was getting married, a decision he that he said has helped shape the path of his life.

Edwards then segued into a call for the graduates to do what they can to lend a helping hand and eliminate poverty in order to ensure an equal chance for all in America.

"America is a place that believes in ascension," he said. "It comes from that eternal belief that we all have the same worth, that a doctor and a bus driver both

matter the same in America. They just have different jobs, but their hard work and dignity can lift up this world."

Edwards concluded by telling the graduates that it is the young people that often make the lasting changes

## *Civil Rights pioneer and U.S. Rep. John Lewis challenges the class of 2009 to 'lead us into the 21st century'*

By ANDY ZAHN  
FLAT HAT ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Civil Rights advocate and U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) spoke at the Aug. 26 annual Opening Convocation, which officially

responsibility to create tradition," Feiss said. "Make your own traditions: make them good and make them last."

Rector of the Board of Visitors Susan Magill then spoke and praised the selection of Nichol as the College's 26th president.

"He understands well the sacred trust that is his as the president of William and Mary," Magill said.

"He, with your help, will make the very most of the opportunities here at William and Mary."

This was the first Convocation at which a Board of Visitors rector has spoken.

Following Magill's remarks, Nichol thanked the campus for attending and "the heavens" for cooler weather and congratulated the class of 2009.

Nichol applauded the legacy of the keynote speaker for his "unequaled beacon of conscience" as Lewis took the stage to deliver a speech centered on acceptance and inspiring students to make a difference in their world.

Lewis, who received an honorary degree from the College in 2003, thanked the audience for inviting him back. He spoke of a journey that begins in college and extends beyond graduation. Lewis charged the College to become a "beloved community," one where everyone can feel accepted and not fear prejudice.

"Through your leadership here on this campus and in the larger

community, you must help build an all-inclusive world community based on simple justice — an all-encompassing community that values the dignity of every individual," Lewis said.

Lewis spoke about his childhood in segregated Alabama. He said that while most people told him to accept his situation, he decided to take action and fight discrimination and injustice. Lewis offered his experiences as an inspiration to students today to lead causes about which they feel strongly.

"I say to you students, lead us into the 21st century. Find a way to get in the way. Find a way to get in trouble. Find a way to make some noise, to make our country and our world a better place," he said. "I say to you, never give up. Never ever consider giving in. Keep your eyes on the prize, keep the faith and walk with the wind."

Lewis ended his speech by urging people never to abandon their resolve and commitment to seeing change in American and the world. He asked the audience to place their present similarities above their historical differences.

"Let the spirit of history be your guide, and let the spirit of William and Mary follow you for the rest of your lives," Lewis said.

Nichol noted the diversity of the freshman class, which he said included people of various racial, socioeconomic, political and religious groups. He warned about exclusion on a college campus and urged students to be accepting of all people.

"We are as well a vivid and rendering example of the American paradox of exclusion and separation, of exploitation and subjection — losing our calling and weakening our cause," he said.

After Nichol's remarks, the choir sang the Alma Mater and the class of 2009 was led through the doors of the Wren Building where they were met, according to recent tradition, by cheering current members of the College community.



in America. He said that he saw the young fight for civil rights and against the Vietnam War and there are still ideals for which to fight.

"This is what you can do," he said. "For the will of one can change the world, and the might of millions can lift of mankind."

